

Thoughts on process:

I work first and foremost intuitively. I like to approach the imagery and materials I use from this internal dialog that arises to a level of compulsion that creates the art. Its like a nagging or longing or obsessive loop that says "make this" and I can't feel settled until its made. It doesn't arrive from any sort of intellectual or technical training. It can come in dreams or waking visions that just pop into my mind. Even though I went to art school I often identify as a folk artist or even as an outsider. And I know that it is a privilege place to be able to go to school and then say: "I'm outside of the system" but I am very rebellious by nature and refused anything that school was trying to teach me. I wasn't buying contemporary theory or buying into any ism. I wanted to look at art made by people in insane asylums, tattoo and folk art traditions. I liked the unrefined self taught aesthetic of punk music. I liked DIY fashion. I wanted to connect to others that were giving the middle finger to convention.

So this intuitive impulse changes overtime. That initial youthful middle finger to convention has turned to a more thoughtful middle aged middle finger to convention. My thoughts and body change over time. I am interested in mapping that.

Right now I am at the end of rearing young children. My oldest is 16 and starting to assert her independence, her leaving home is a close reality. So my current work has to do with looking back at domesticity and motherhood through my surreal, unconventional lens. I am looking at the emotions that surround family- the domestic drama I like to call it. How can I represent that? What do I see when I look back at the photos of the family that I could not see when I was inside the experience? What larger truth can I draw out? How can I be more honest? And based on what I am looking to represent I may make a painting, or I may pick up an embroidery needle or write a poem. I have to trust myself unconditionally and that is the real work.