

## Artist Statement

My paintings are poetic and reimagined depictions of my surroundings' constructed and natural world, reflecting upon home, place, presence, and the complex search for rootedness and belonging. Drawing inspiration from my everyday observations and travels, I am drawn to the familiar and its relationship to the infinite, sublime, and transient. Robin Wall Kimmerer's thoughts on healing our relationship with the land resonate deeply with me. Paying attention to the ordinary and natural elements allow me to locate myself, reconnect with the present moment, and find rootedness, beauty, and identity that enrich my connection to both self and nature while giving me a sense of wonder for this world. My experiences as an adoptee and immigrant shape my art, especially the quest to find grounding.

I am fascinated by details, textures, and the palpability of light. My slow, meticulous painting process transforms into an act of pause and intense observation, allowing me to bring attention to simple forms and their essence. Each piece is layered with memories, stories, and associations, adding dimension to my work. Using self-made photographs, these works are internal landscapes and personal expressions conveyed through color, and the rich materiality of and the visual language and history of painting.

- Cherrisse Alcantara