

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. My art is informed by my experiences as an 'adoptee' from a fragmented background and residing in a mobile contemporary world, feeling disconnected from the here and now and of migration. Experiences of loss and ungroundedness are channeled through my art. I frequently depict homes and built spaces while looking at them from the outside with a yearning yet distant gaze. Lacking roots that I can hold onto, paying attention to the details within the ordinary, and finding kinship with natural elements like plants and trees allow me to locate myself, reconnect, and find rootedness and identity that heals my relationship with the self and the world. These works are internal landscapes and personal expressions conveyed through color and the visual language and history of painting.

-Cherisse Alcantara