

Artist Statement

My paintings emerge from quiet observation and embodied awareness of place and my surroundings. Working primarily in small- to medium-scale oil paintings, I draw on imagery from nature, light, horizons, landscapes, and built environments to explore the act of searching: for meaning, stillness, and rootedness beyond distance. My work reflects an ongoing meditation on time, home, belonging, presence, and change. By revisiting moments of transition, I am less interested in documenting a specific place than in inhabiting the space of contemplation itself: those transitional moments when the fleeting, the eternal, and the unknown seem to coexist, and when vastness and mystery become tangible.

Paying close attention to the land, everyday rhythms, cycles of nature, and changing light reconnects me with the present and deepens my relationship to the world around me. My experiences as an adoptee and member of the diaspora, particularly my ongoing search for grounding, inform my understanding of home and embodied memory. I often return to my subjects and motifs over time, allowing my relationship with them to deepen. Layered with memories, stories, emotions, and associations, these experiences find form through color, material, atmosphere, and the visual language of painting.

- Cherisse Alcantara