

Artist Bio

Wendy Wang, originally from Fujian, China, is a BFA candidate at the University of Texas at Tyler. Wang creates paintings that use figurative imagery to capture the intimate moments, external, and internal struggles girls go through. The compositions, which are inspired by coming-of-age movies, shows, and real-life experiences her and other women in her life have gone through. Wang's goal is to create pieces which embody the idea of female struggles. She works primarily in oils and uses saturated and vibrant colors to create an emotional world for the viewer. After graduation, she plans to keep practicing and developing more artworks.

Artist Statement

The medium I am working with is oil on canvas and the reason I choose this medium is because of its rich and vibrant colors and textures. I mainly focus on figurative works about women/girls, and in some of the paintings I also include elements of fruits. For example, the girls are holding it, being plated next to them, or acting as the figure's head to symbolize fertility, youthfulness, inedibility of time, desires, and lust. My painting techniques are very loose and painterly to indicate the messiness of life and terrible choices we might put ourselves through. My color palette is very saturated, symbolizing the masking of issues we want to hide from others. I portray the idea of coming-of-age, and the growing pains girls go through when becoming a woman. For example, figuring out who we are as a person, how others view us, constantly battling with our weight, cutting out toxic relationships in our life, the fear of aging, etc. All these obstacles us girls go through is what allows us to slowly evolve into womanhood.

After watching a variety of coming-of-age media, such as *Thirteen*, *My So-Called Life*, *Anne with an E*, and *Call me by Your Name*, it makes me feel closely related to the characters and the problems they were facing at the time. These stories are what inspired me to explore this topic. The goal for my artwork is to help the audience better understand the problems young girls go through on a daily basis.