



As a Queer, Mexican-Swedish-American Texan (b. Houston, 1980) living in Vermont (for 20 years now), I make work about how my relationship with processing experience connects me to the vulnerability of being human.

Human beings are not placed; but bring place into being.

This idea comes to me from the theologian and philosopher Johnathan Z. Smith; and I interpret it to mean we ascribe significance to preciousness and create belonging through relational connection. This concept encapsulates the core of my practice in its understanding that it is through relational experience and perception we find both connection and shared meaning.

Our bodies consume information sensorially blending it with experiential knowledge in order to understand the collective state of being. My practice situates itself within and amongst this process as I attempt to capture the complexity of my own understanding of identity and translate these concepts intuitively into material being.

I am motivated and drawn to how materials much like bodies can hold feelings and memories connected to place. In my work I activate mediums such as textiles, ink, video, sound, and paint to better understand my feelings around gender, identity, and place making/keeping/tending. Through vibrant colors, embellished surfaces, and symbolic mark making, I build deeply layered visual conversations that consider specific moments/interactions from the past, present, and projected future.

My newest body of work, Tending Constellations, reflects on caring for untenable things that we wish to hold onto but are beyond our control to tame. Drawing inspiration from Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's "The Little Prince", Maggie Nelson's "Bluets", and researching the way ritual acts as a portal for connection into states of being and beyond being, this group of paintings will culminate in a solo show this August 2022.