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Artist Statement

Our minds often remember events a lot different than how they actually happened. In memory, we perceive these events and remember them in fragments. Memories are snapshots of our past that we constantly recall to help define our individual self. What we remember as a child serves as one of the foundations for determining our identity. These childhood memories are the earliest records we have of our reality. Exploring these realities help determine what we are made of, where we come from and who we are as a person.

My artworks deal with the search of identity through exploring childhood memories. I use childhood photographs, written or verbal accounts, and personal documents to stimulate and validate these memories.

I recollect the figures on the photograph and paint as I remember them. I draw them in a gestural manner using different media and paint them as I picture them in my head. I then erase the progress I have produced and redraw and paint the scene all over again- this time slightly above, below, to the side of the original drawing signifying the process in which we retrieve memories which are often rearranged, distorted, and fragmented.

Memory, an abstract concept, cannot solely be contained in a mere rectangular canvas. Memories come in different forms and can be recalled through our different senses. Experimenting with different media has expanded the ways I am able to express my childhood memories.

These small fragments of my early memories as a child help make up who I am today. They function as totems that keep me grounded and as a reminder of the person I aspire to be.