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ARTIST
STATEMENT

Growing up with the difficulties of transition from Venezuela to the southern part of the United States, with a stutter had evoked the idea that I had to work differently to establish relationships among my school mates and to form a sense of identity. Portraiture was the flex that was born from isolation. Since I couldn't speak, I would draw other students. The study of form became therapeutic in the sense that it was something I could grow with, a distraction from the chaos and discomforts around me. As a youth, it felt like nothing was in my control, but art, drawing, this practice was something that was. The dynamic between control and the abstract sense of no control was something of interest that would follow me through my practice, through life's challenges of surviving capitalism, ethnic differences, political struggles, working in male dominated industries, and especially becoming a mother.

Fascinated by my child's mark making through his impulsive movements, I studied and applied creative flow through the process in the practice of surrealism. Finding the balance between abstract and figurative has been a conceptual exercise as well as regulating my own impulses within the creative process. Escapism as an ideology has been a consistent factor, as the physical practice of painting, a distraction from reality both in the process and the subject/narrative. Escapism is something developed as a coping mechanism, exercised through traumatic events. Inspired by storytelling, poetry, history, control, freedom, balance and the constant desire to transport and shape-shift, the work often navigates symbolism, critiques of current events, concepts of emergence and exploration within the narrative. There is a convincing nature of reality and the questions of possibility that are inherent in the process and reflected conceptually in the work. Pushing the boundaries of reality, challenging what we know, reflecting on current events, documenting times through a critical perspective, will continue to be what inspires my work.