

Gohar Sargsyan

artist statement

The overarching theme of my artistic work centers on humanity and related subjects. I focus on the concepts of what makes us human, how this relates to psychology and our natural environment.

My creative process starts with exploring deep questions about what it means to be human, what emotions are evoked from diverse life experiences, and how we are connected to our environment. I transform these questions into mystical narratives. I work on reconciling the dichotomy between the visuals that come to the world outside our bodies and the ones existing within our psyches, by re-contextualizing them into intimate, familiar narratives, within the subtext of collective consciousness. This is emphasized both in my landscape works as well as portraitures.

Having learned various media and artistic means from graphics to painting to video art, I seek to reconstruct spaces and figures into poetic signifiers using color, form, and lines. Over the years I have been creating my personal approach with paint, layering colors and textures, creating washes, forcing erasures, and overlaying and experimenting and combining with different mediums. A core objective for my work is to invite the audience to interact with the while they engage in a visual experience.

In the context of my work on humanity, my work also touches on themes related to armed conflict and mental health and provides an avenue for self-expression for those who interact with my work.

For example, my latest exhibition “Strangers in the Room” expresses my own experience during the pandemic, when the entire world was fighting the coronavirus disease and its consequences, a time when people were overwhelmed by an equally terrible epidemic: the psychological epidemic of loneliness and alienation. As a reaction to the isolation of this time, I sought to create a space where people could express their feelings and experiences of this time.

Within this exhibit, I featured a sound installation, “Voices”, a separate research and documentary project, through which we hear people's stories about their experiences during Covid and with war, engaging the audience directly. The installation inspired the audience to also express their own stories.

Another example of my multidisciplinary work on the theme of armed conflict is a video “Land Und Blut” which expresses my feelings about the different conflicts regionally and globally in 2022.