

Hanna Corneliussen: yeah we kind of start a little bit, but i'm looking at these charming little houses and it kind of leads into our first question tell us a little bit more about these pieces so like what are the main themes and then how did these themes developed.

Miggie Wong: Sure, so as a say during pandemic, the only place that I could walk around it's my neighbor it is on Delaware avenue which there's a lot of historical houses, is very fascinating.

Miggie Wong: I got to learn just a little bit about it, I don't know much of the history about it, but just a detail has inspired me to do a project, the joint project that's making 100 drawing of those houses, basically, I just reimagine.

Miggie Wong: Combining my own thoughts and ideas and with the little details that I observed from the houses and I make 100 drawings of it.

Miggie Wong: These are the extension of that project I could show you Unfortunately I don't have the picture of it, but this is one of the House that I made, I drew.

Miggie Wong: So.

Miggie Wong: yeah I think so yeah i'm very obsessed with details and this project, I think.

Miggie Wong: Is because you know, being in a new city during lockdown I have to find out like how to make.

Miggie Wong: How to create guidelines and how to make my own routine you know so.

Miggie Wong: Being in like very much into detail it's something that grew up there it's one of the elements of the project, so these guys have to say, is an extension.

Miggie Wong: And it is based on the observation.

Miggie Wong: That that I have from the from from the joint projects and also you know, by looking at it all the time, so let me introduce this this is.

called.

Miggie Wong: yellow bungalow so there's a lot of bungalow in.

Miggie Wong: in Delaware avenue or in buffalo New York stay like it seems very familiar with a lot of people, but I guess, for me, since i'm not going up like I don't grow up here.

Miggie Wong: It is very fascinating to me, so I made a little of each other, they have windows and just add like deco's around it and i'm going to show you just slowly.

Miggie Wong: and also the side window.

Miggie Wong: deco's.

Miggie Wong: me in depth back I love to have big windows in the back and that's what I see a lot of people they have it and it's like a half attic to so with the windows yeah really I love windows.

Miggie Wong: So yeah So this is the yellow bungalow and.

Miggie Wong: And one thing that I should mention like I learned more about it by.

Miggie Wong: Joining the.

Miggie Wong: Two tours they have there's an organization called explore buffalo, it is a nonprofit organization that gives tours.

Miggie Wong: When the city is slightly open again I got to.

Miggie Wong: join the tours and they in this is they, you know they take you around and they they talk about houses and the history about it and also some some architectural backgrounds about like the historical buildings, so I learned a lot, and this is one of the inspired.

Miggie Wong: Work This is called round store front.

Hanna Corneliussen: Oh yeah yeah.

Miggie Wong: I realized.

Miggie Wong: The storefront that they build is not nice it's always like a little bit like diagnose, they have a small storefront but then on the side they actually have.

Miggie Wong: Big windows, where you could see you know what's in the store, so this is the side of it, however, in the back somehow they don't really it's like.

Miggie Wong: They don't know much about so.

Miggie Wong: Sometimes there is concrete, you know, but they still have windows there.

Miggie Wong: These are idea that I combine with what I see but also you know my ideas, too, so I decided to make a rooftop garden.

Miggie Wong: And the top so like there's tons of.

Miggie Wong: parameters vegetation.

Miggie Wong: Try to make some trees around so people who go up there, and do some gathering.

Hanna Corneliussen: yeah I love the shape it's.

Hanna Corneliussen: yeah you're right your detail is.

Miggie Wong: Is a MAC i'm.

Miggie Wong: i'm just very obsessed with it.

Miggie Wong: It just I just try to imagine if i'm in there.

Miggie Wong: As like if i'm looking at it in person, what I would like to look at so yeah this other one so and this one it's called peach double.

Miggie Wong: know I learned that there's a lot of.

Miggie Wong: doubles doubles.

Miggie Wong: In the area where they share the same entrance and then we're two different units and they're always like pretty square with our take on it.

Miggie Wong: So here you walk up to the staircase a small deck right here, and then go in and there are two different units and it's units of like a lot of windows.

Miggie Wong: they're sort of basement.

Miggie Wong: yeah I like living in Los Angeles, and in Hong Kong there's no basement so much of a basement you know so.

Miggie Wong: I got really fascinated about basement oh i'm kind of scared when I walked down.

Miggie Wong: I usually don't stay there for more than like to second and i'm like okay i'm done and and I woke up yeah but yeah add this element to this House cuz it's necessary.

Miggie Wong: Here you got a basement and there we got a first for, and the second for.

Miggie Wong: and also the back is pretty much similar to in each of the units has their own big windows small windows also like this is probably like the basements they are ks and then go upstairs.

Miggie Wong: So in between, I just want to put a window in here as well, so yeah, and this is another unit to they are pretty much the same yeah I like to make them, you know the same.

Miggie Wong: That everybody who got the same size and same features yeah.

Hanna Corneliussen: So wow those are one what a great way to like immerse yourself in a new space, you know going to work and seek inspiration that way so i'm kind of changing gears not not really same vein.

Hanna Corneliussen: So our exhibition standing still has a dual theme one of standing still and feeling frozen in time and the second of resiliency.

Hanna Corneliussen: That were emerging from the struggles still standing so yeah.

Hanna Corneliussen: What are your reflections to this.

Hanna Corneliussen: theme, as it relates to your work.

Miggie Wong: um I I wrote it down I have.

Miggie Wong: to write it down because it's just.

Miggie Wong: yeah.

Miggie Wong: As I mentioned about you know my art projects to join projects and also you know these these houses.

Miggie Wong: I think.

Miggie Wong: This whole year, and you know about standing still.

Miggie Wong: it's you're physically standing still but your mind is not so my so my project is about publishing a collection of momento you know.

Miggie Wong: I hope that that pronounce it right mementos and forward momentum during a covert 19 so it means that you know, like combining all the memories, that you have in your head when you're physically trap kind of.

Miggie Wong: But and then transform those energy into you know, a momentum like an action.

Miggie Wong: To make a collection of art so that's how I my project it's about you know, reflecting on this year if i've answered his question.

Miggie Wong: yeah and also, it is a I think it is a psychological response of how I how I cope with this global uncontrollable intensity by creating my own personal controllable intensity so yeah So these are the joins and these quite Labor intensive.

Miggie Wong: And I think yeah, this is the response of how I respond to the intensity of what we have deal with you know 2020 I mean it is still happening, but maybe, thank God, like now we're getting better.

Miggie Wong: But yeah so yeah.

Hanna Corneliussen: So you talk about this is like a coping coping mechanism for yourself.

Hanna Corneliussen: And kind of a way to make sense of everything that's going on.

Hanna Corneliussen: How do you hope that your art will impact the viewers like what ideas and emotions and conversations, do you hope your art will provoke.

Miggie Wong: um let's see sorry.

Hanna Corneliussen: Take your time.

So.

Miggie Wong: Wait a question is how I want a viewer to see it Okay, yes.

Miggie Wong: Yes, um.

Miggie Wong: I think everybody's dealing with different things you know people might still be dealing with grief and a lot of people i'm sure some people may be, you know flourishing having a great time you know, based on the circumstances they may be benefiting them.

Miggie Wong: But for what I see here is the work that I do is that I want.

Miggie Wong: To take it, you know it's it's based on the season of their life, you know they they may not see this as very familiar things to them.

Miggie Wong: They may see it as something that oh i've seen this before or This is very foreign to me, which is what I have been you know, like processing.

Miggie Wong: I hope that the viewer see this as, in conclusion, they could find a sense of belonging, where when they deal with this, you know to certain in certain you know say of mine so yeah that's beautiful.

Hanna Corneliussen: I, and I think that's exactly kind of what Danny and I felt when we first saw these pieces.

Hanna Corneliussen: yeah immediately can resonate with it and and connect to it so yeah very special.

Hanna Corneliussen: So we were talking a little about a bit about this earlier before we started recording but um could you tell us a little bit about your past year personally like what you've been up to how these last 12 months impact you and what you what you wish people knew about those in your situation.

Miggie Wong: So the past 12 months, as I said that i'm I moved to a new city just a week before it locked down.

Now.

Miggie Wong: I learned a city by you know doing a lot of walking and driving through so.

Miggie Wong: And then I use those as my inspiration and make the art project my hundred joins of the houses project and also these house projects.

Miggie Wong: So, and then where the city is open again I got to join this tours.

Miggie Wong: That provided by the it's a it's an organization, where it gives you know historical tours.

Miggie Wong: So there was one month that I joined about 16 tours.

Miggie Wong: cuz it just a lot of information and I i've been joined those like I made 100 joins all that but do I actually know much about it, like.

Miggie Wong: I do, and I really want to know the history about it and, like the culture about it and very fascinating I realized that.

Miggie Wong: All these buildings seems to be very original but, in fact, like back in the days, they are still.

Miggie Wong: adding a little bit fusion of it, you know, so in that area I, this is just my opinion that I learned that I think in that area there's they're also trying to re imagining.

Miggie Wong: How the new House would be so yeah so the past six months, to begin with, I look at it, and then I make drawings and then the second half is pretty much about.

Miggie Wong: Going back to the drawing and going back to the real housing, like the actual buildings and learn about the culture and the history of it, and you know just to understand what that is about and then and then turns into these you know, making it into an object yeah.

Miggie Wong: I have that make sense.

Hanna Corneliussen: No, it does you make such a connection with the historic place.

Hanna Corneliussen: yeah and I love that just, so much so that, so that you can grasp every detail when you're creating the well that's wonderful um did you learn anything about yourself this past year, like on an individual level or an artistic level.

Miggie Wong: I did um.

Miggie Wong: I learned that I actually enjoy making art.

Miggie Wong: He.

Miggie Wong: Does I do right but.

Miggie Wong: I learned that how important it is to have a stable art practice.

Miggie Wong: There are times that you know when we were before pandemic, we were so busy and good times for me it just making art is like a side project but.

Miggie Wong: During pandemic I make so many because it becomes my routine as part of it and and I I learned it like this is actually very important as part of you know.

Miggie Wong: An important role team for my life and and also like I learned better like how to channel my situation into a creative workforce and it's yeah it's pretty amazing.

Miggie Wong: yeah.

Hanna Corneliussen: good for you like your perception yeah taking something that's.

Miggie Wong: negative.

Hanna Corneliussen: and turning it into a positive like that's such a great outlook um Is there something that you hope everybody can take away from this past year's events, if anything.

Miggie Wong: i'm, as I say, like, I think that.

Miggie Wong: Different people are doing different things in their life right now.

Miggie Wong: there's no one certain way to do it, but I was thinking about my situation is that.

Miggie Wong: I always feel that i'm a foreigner in a way.

Miggie Wong: But because I have that when I say foreign it's not raise or location it's it's just the state of mind.

Miggie Wong: So, like if you I was taking every constantly being foreign.

Miggie Wong: That gives you an energy and also curiosity, where you can.

Miggie Wong: where you will learn new things like where you, you will be able to appreciate new things, so I hope that the viewer can also you know, save creative and also have a state of mind at like at some point, you are also foreign in in this world, you know.

Miggie Wong: Where where your ad or hold your web there's always a part of ourselves it's quite foreign.

Miggie Wong: it's good to you know, look into it and.

Miggie Wong: be creative about it and adapt to you know adapt it and learn new things so yeah.

Hanna Corneliussen: I love that curiosity so important right.

Miggie Wong: yeah.

Hanna Corneliussen: Wonderful well that's about the end of our questions here um is there anything that you would like to add, how can folks as access your work you'd like to.

Miggie Wong: Or the coming exhibition in the museum no i'm excited about it, I hope that people can see it either virtual or being in a museum.

Miggie Wong: I wish the museum will be open soon you know, considering, we still have to be very careful, but hope that someday sooner or later, so yeah the exhibition, I also have a website that has like have a collection of my art so yeah hope that people can visit.



Hanna Corneliussen: awesome awesome well, thank you again so much for for talking with us today, we really appreciate it.

Miggie Wong: My pleasure yeah Thank you yeah.

Danielle Marie New: i'm gonna go i'm gonna go ahead and just stop the recording.

Okay um.