

Statement

Chelsea Ryoko Wong

“My work observes human nature. It is meant to empower the viewer and provide a platform for the unspoken stories in people’s lives. I am interested in what drives people, the dynamics of relationships, power and what it means to be a woman and person of color. As an Asian-American woman who grew up with three older sisters of mixed Black, Japanese, Chinese, European, and Native American decent, it is important to me to represent my identity and the larger community I am a part of, whether is sisterhood, the Mission District where I live, or whom I feel to be the underrepresented.

Whether it’s listening to the news, traveling or observing scenes on a busy San Francisco corner, I am drawn to other peoples stories. Using gleaned information and my imagination, I use text in my work as a way to define my subjects. I paint freely and without a plan, often finding inspiration on a whim.

The interplay between bright colors, busy environments, and ironic humor, reflect my daily life living in a city. My paintings present a tiny slice of humanity, finding solitude within chaos; presenting curiosity and questions when looking for answers.”

- **Chelsea Wong**