

My Sense of Place

A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith

Sisters Kiki and Seton Smith return to the town they grew up in for a tribute exhibition of their distinguished artwork at Seton Hall's Walsh Gallery in South Orange, NJ organized in collaboration with the Lennie Pierro Memorial Art Foundation. The show, *A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith* examines the question, "How does place irrevocably impact our sense of self?" Kiki Smith's drawings and prints look to the natural world to understand the relationship between place and identity on a symbolic level. Seton's large-scale photographs look to the built environment to convey associations by moving within and navigating through space.

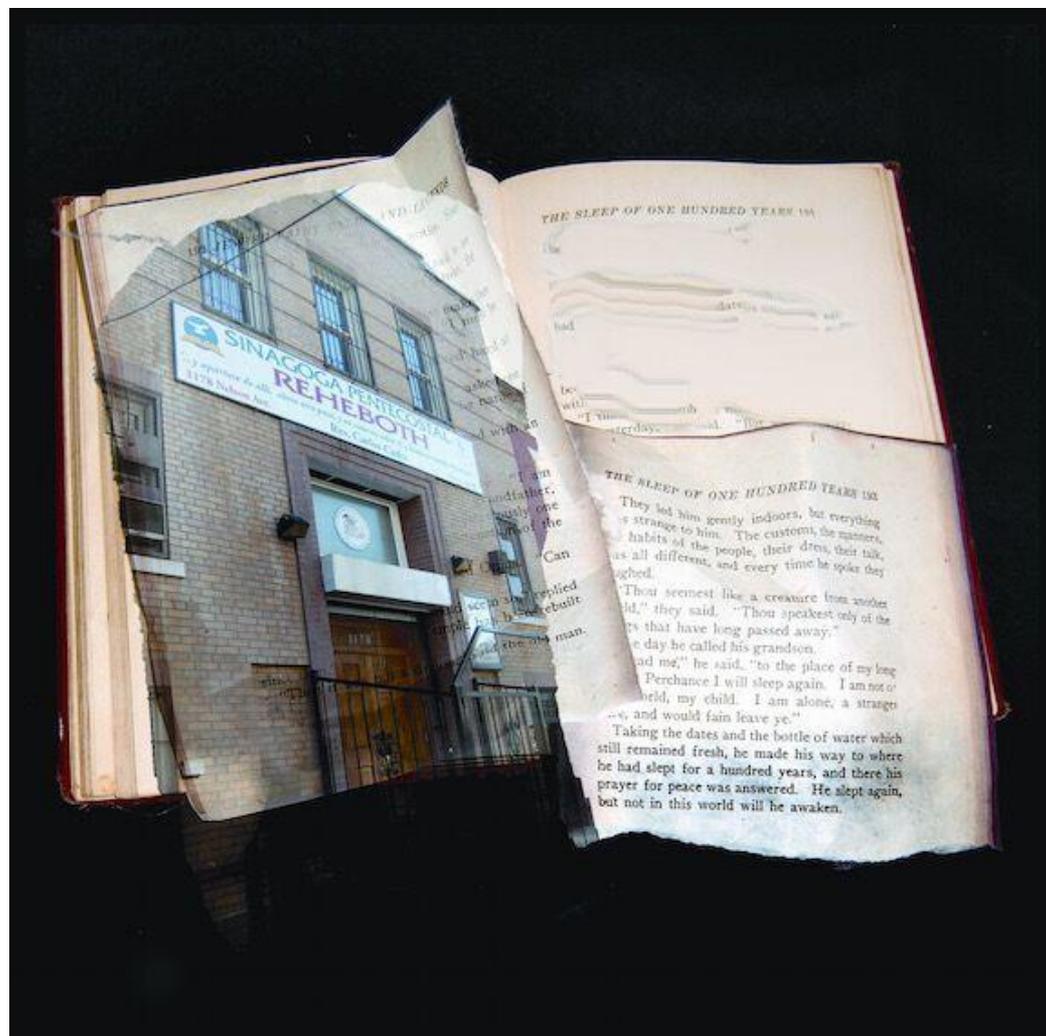
A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith
October 30-December 6, 2016
Walsh Gallery, Seton Hall University
400 South Orange Avenue
South Orange, New Jersey

My Sense of Place is a collaboration of the Pierro Foundation, Seton Hall University's Walsh Gallery, the Pierro Gallery, and the South Orange/Maplewood Public Schools. This outreach is in conjunction with the exhibition, *A Sense of Place* featuring works by Kiki and Seton Smith, produced by the Pierro Foundation at the Walsh Gallery, Seton Hall University.

Aileen Bassis

Awaken

From the series: *Stories End*
about the lost world of my
childhood in the South Bronx,
I've combined photos of
former synagogues (now
repurposed into churches,
community centers, etc.) with
pages of an old book, Jewish
Fairy Tales and Legends, that
I discovered when I cleaned
out my parents' apartment.



My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith



Alisa Berlin

Fantasy Room

My dull living room is brought to life through the use of unique colors that contrast the empty walls. The dark purple color dripping from the walls represents the movement of ideas that block out the busy outdoors. Mixed media

My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith

Amanda Burns- Elhassouni

Nowhere and Anywhere

My sense of place is synonymous with a tile floor. You know you've been there, but you're not sure where this place is. I can't say where I know myself best because it is ever changing, depending on my life circumstances at that time. I've always regarded myself as a chameleon, someone who knows how to adapt and live anywhere. I haven't lived everywhere, so maybe this is an overstatement, but I can make a sense of place wherever I have lived and therefore, anywhere and nowhere is my truth.



My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith

Jane Sterrett



My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith



Ana Cowie

Overflow

This piece is made up of images that I have taken over the course of my life that represent places where I feel at home or people that make me feel at home. I want all of these places and people to stay the same, but in reality these things change without my say. The images flowing out of the safety of the hands represent the parts of my life that I cannot hold onto.

Anna Herbst



My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith

Betsy Meyer-Donadio

For me, it is my porch that gives me my grounding, a sense of place, of comfort, of security. This is where I am- right now, in this time, in this world...From my porch I get a visceral sense of which direction I am facing...I can face east and see the sun rise, facing the direction of New York City knowing it is there, if I need it... I can turn around and face west and watch my street come alive, children playing, dog's walking... Facing North, my neighbors...working or Sunday morning singing... If I face slightly south, I can just get a glimpse of my childhood home, a stone's throw away, never to return but in my mind's eye... I can sit in a chair and read a book, listen to cicadas, be transported to who knows where, but always return...to my porch.



My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, *A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith*

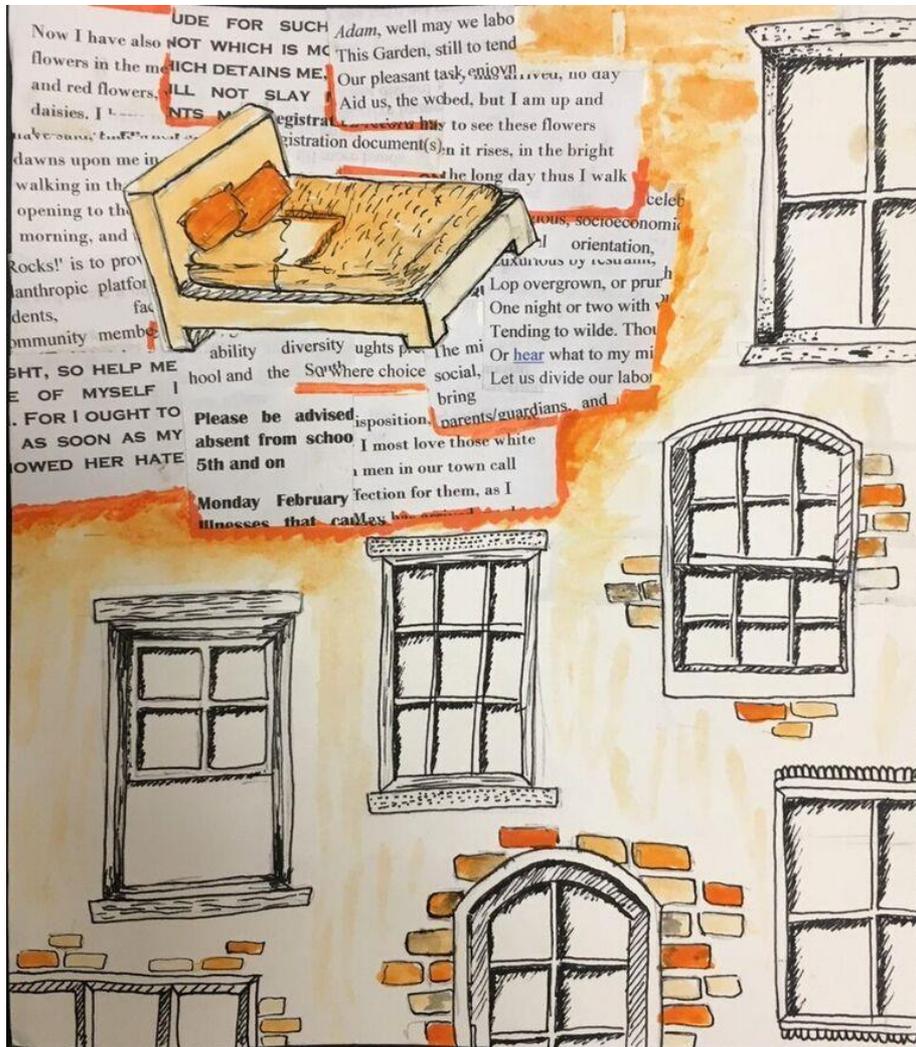
Chiamaka Chukwuka

Broken Dreams

This speaks to how our childhood dreams and innocence is often broken as we age. The bridge is crumbling while children play, because their childhood is slowly slipping away much like people's ability to imagine and dream.



My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith



Elisa Leung

Panes

I find comfort in my bed, yet sleep is my favorite form of procrastination. This is the reasoning of my unmade bed and the papers about Sir Gawain and school guide. From the outside, I'm not sure if my workload looks as bad.

Ellen Hanauer

What if?

This is where I live, in a constant state of what if?

It is a simple question, but it opens up every door I've ever gone through. All the solutions to every creative challenge is answered through this porta I. I think this phrase holds a prime spot in the nucleus of every cell in my body. Everything I see, everything I encounter, spins to the sound of these two words.

What if? Look into my mirror, and see where these words take you.



My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, *A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith*



Ellison Rounsavill

A Dog's Dream
My drawing shows a dog chasing a duck, using her tail cloud to fly. I imagine that this is what my dog dreams about as she sleeps. It's her happy place.

My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, *A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith*

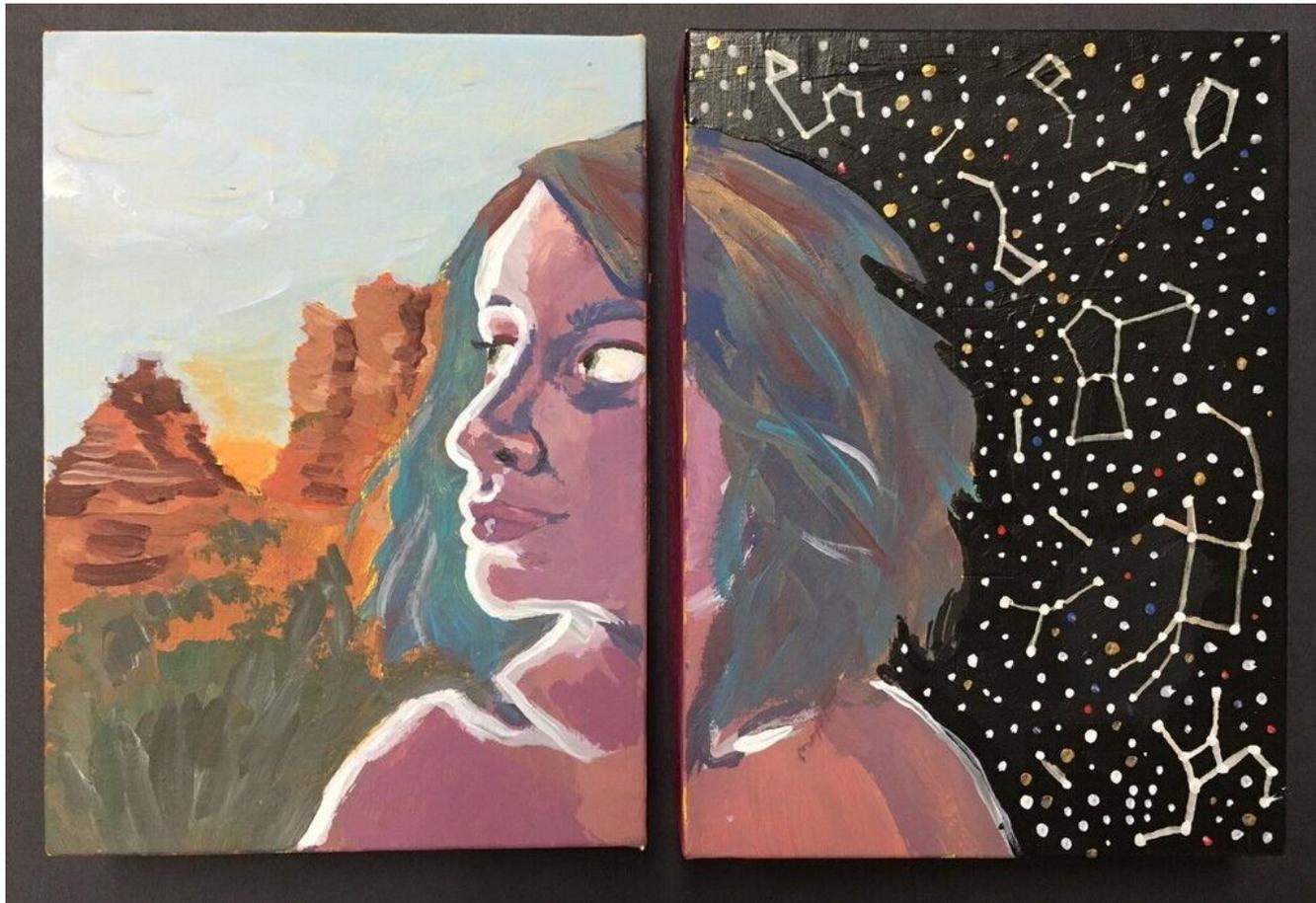


Elyse Carter

A Borrowed Place

I have been taking photos of the view from my backyard into the woods for 15 years. I find a sense of peace and contentment in the changing views throughout the year. The place is not really mine-- I own the property -- but I am only here for a while. The universe has given me the gift of this view, a changing and yet consistent view. It roots me to this place, to the community, to the people in my life. The trees seem to look back at me and say, "Yes, we're still here."

My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, *A Sense of Place:* Kiki and Seton Smith



Emily Glynn

Red Rocks and Hercules

Last spring break, I visited the red rocks of Arizona and the Grand Canyon. Around the time I visited, I was in a metaphorical rut regarding my creativity and my happiness and I was unsure and insecure about almost everything. This piece represents both the indecision and unhappiness in my life at the time, while also depicting the inspiration, and unwavering vivacity I struck while in Sedona.

My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith



Imani Hudson

In/Eternal Space

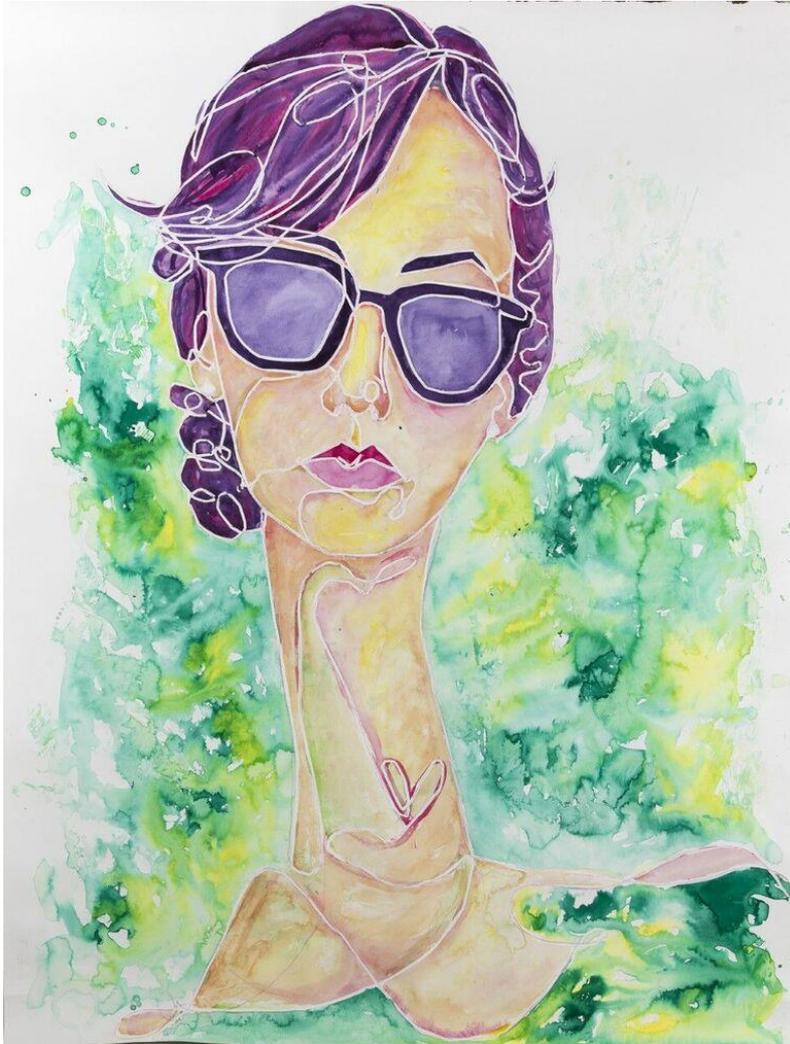
Almost always drifting,
Lost in this world of imagination
But there's nowhere else I'd rather be.
Almost always dreaming,
Thousands of universes and galaxies
live and die in this imagination.
But there's no other way I'd want to be.
So, take a look,
So, take a glance,
And understand that this place, this
space,
MY SPACE
Is and always will be,
Internal and Eternal.

Joshua Ewing

City Street

This piece speaks to the sense of being lost in a crowd, physically and artistically. The stark black and white lines are meant to contain, entrap, and loom over the river of color that is the people in the street.





Kathryn Leigh McGinley

My sense of place where I feel complete ownership and confidence is Inside. Not inside of a tangible building, but inside of myself. I gravitate to the polar edge of introversion. I'm not a shy person, I'm not uncomfortable out in the world, I just find a sense of creative nourishment when I have time alone. Being in the Digital Age, many of us take to the internet as our source of connection. My most recent body of work called "selfies" acts as a social commentary in exploring how we represent ourselves on different social media sites, our need to feel relevant, and the vulnerability of displaying our lifestyles on the internet. My submission is not of an actual place, but of this space we have created to represent who we are and who we strive to be in this endless digital sea.

My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith



Kelly Vetter

In-finite

Given that Kiki Smith is one of my all-time favorite art visionaries ever; I had to submit a work. I chose a very personal one, made of clay and dryer lint forming a humble house mouse that explores the universe through the portal of a great story. Time and space travel machine, c 1900. There are no borders or constraints; the entire universe is mine for the musing, through the pages of a book.

My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith

Quinn Barnitt



My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith

Laura Lou Levy

Night Beach 2, 2016



My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith



Lauren Henry

A Sense of Space

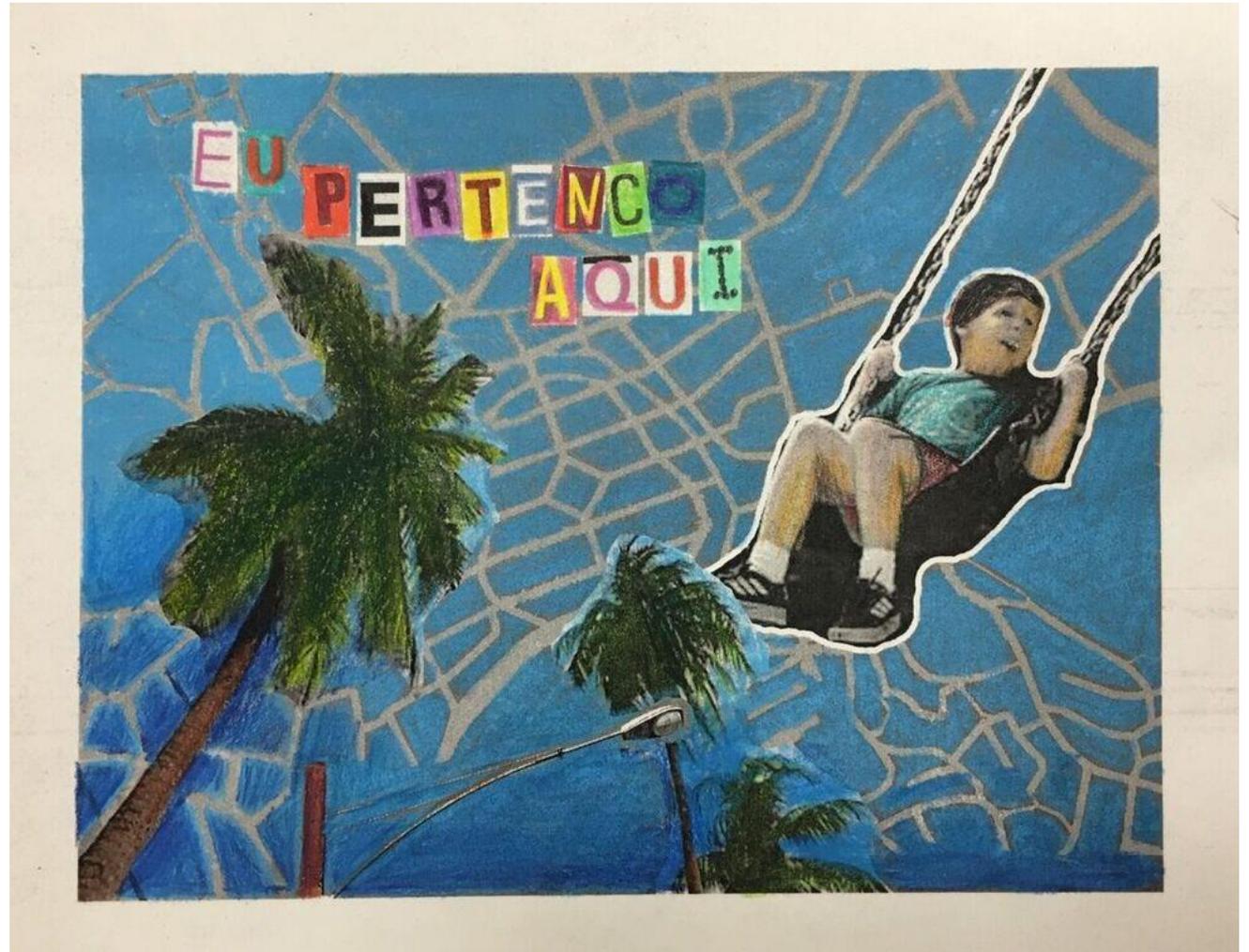
A Sense of Space is the place where I sit in a thin layer of acrylic cools of blue, black, and purples that swirl around me. I, a bright centerpiece sit on my floating bright painted bed to illuminate my way through space. A white headboard is added to the back of my bed to show the evidence of growth through color.

My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith

Leonel Soares

Eu Pertença Aqui

This piece is a childhood memory of when I lived in Brazil, “Eu pertença aqui” translate as I belong here. Represents the freedom that I used to have as a child in Brazil, compared to how I feel here, the stress of living in a different country.



My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith



Lily Sickles

Kitchen

The house I lived in, from birth to 12 years old, was always “in the works”. Kind of dismantled. Kind of fitting for my mom, sister, and me. My kitchen was the most glaring example of stains and stolen food and not quite clean dishes. But in the past few years and, through this piece, I’ve realized how explicitly that kitchen has shaded my memory, and how much I still identify with and revere its grime and unwieldy countertops.

Single flower from South Orange, NJ.

When I was a child in Brazil, there were always many flowers in the fields where we played. Once, during a trip home to visit with my family, I encountered both native and transplanted flowers which evoked distinct memories of place and time with their characteristic scents and colors. I started photographing flowers from my home country each time I returned. Recently I became a transplant again, moving from New York to New Jersey. During my first Spring and Summer here I started photographing the flora of my new home. This has turned into a series that captures my memories of Brazil and my present life in New Jersey through the flora of both places.



Luciano Fileti



Luz Aguba

Same Old Carpet

I've been living in the same room for 15 plus years. This part of my room is a metaphor for my growth and change. I have interpreted it in three pieces to express the passage of time.

My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, *A Sense of Place:* Kiki and Seton Smith



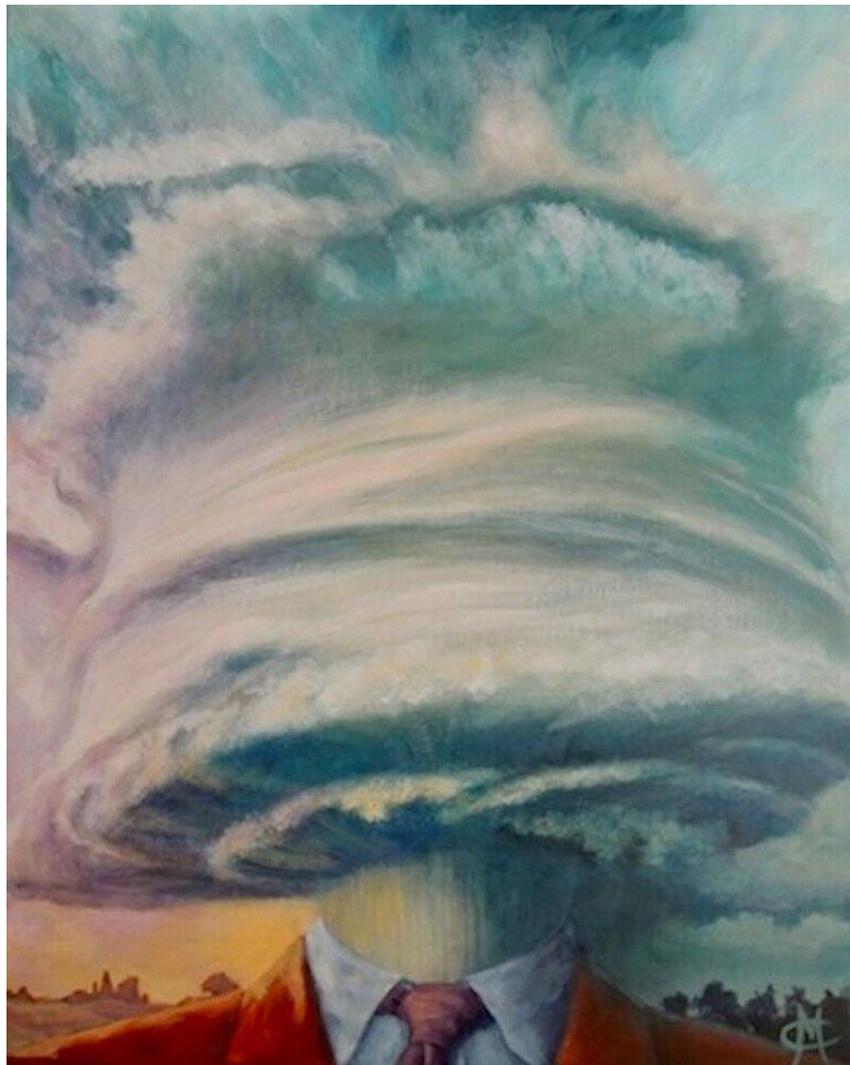
Marianne Barcellona

Left Behind 2

In 2014, I was in Iceland and took a bus tour to view the Northern Lights. They drove us a long way from Reykjavik into totally deserted lava-rich countryside up dirt roads, overlooking dark water, to get away from the city lights. After photographing the awe-inspiring view for a while, I suddenly realized with a really alarming jolt that I was all alone, no longer surrounded by the other 79 people. The contradictory feelings of awe at the beauty of being under the Northern Lights and the existential shock and fear at unexpectedly being abandoned completely alone in the pitch dark at what felt like the top of the world left me quite shaken.

Mary Jean Canziani

As It Is Written



My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith

Meredith Olin

Bedroom

I struggle a lot with procrastination and organization. I drew what I could see in front of me and through my bedroom mirror, which was most notably a pile of schoolbooks, a watch, and myself.





Nancy Egol Nikkal

My studio inspires me. It's a real place. A studio needs to feel right. I work at Media Loft, a former carpet factory in New Rochelle, NY, converted to art studios and live/work spaces. When I saw this studio space, it was love at first sight: a good size window for light (important), 3 hanging fluorescent light fixtures (yes), a slop sink (yes), old wood floors (good), exposed beams (nice), pipes and industrial grade struts (fabulous). I had to be there.

My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith



Norma Greenwood

Sense of Place is a thing rooted in familiarity and comfort. My paintings allude to the secure nest we create in the space we call "bedroom". It is the place that stops and begins the day, a reference point from which to travel the journey ahead.

My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith

Olga Alexander

Féminine Transcriptions 03



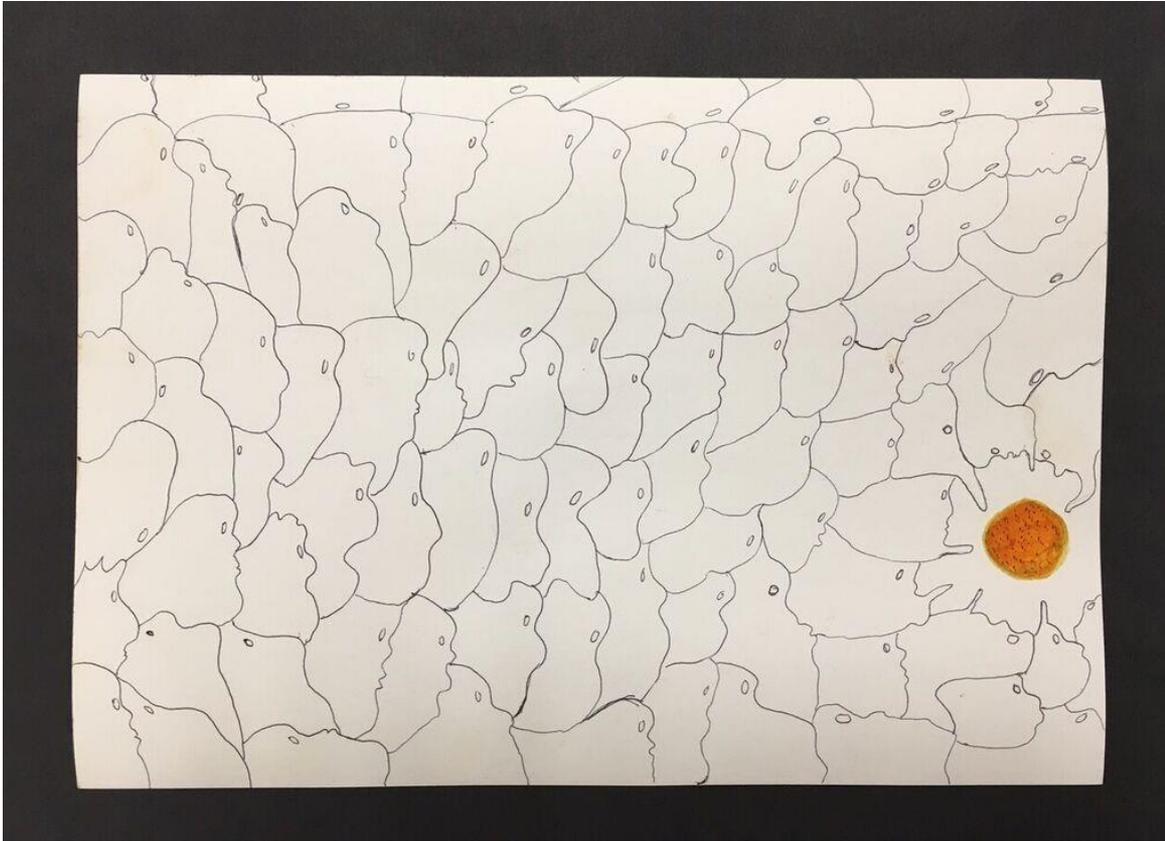
My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith



SARA KLAR

In The Bath I Let My Mind Wander To
Find A Name To Explain 36 Years Of
History, Why This Is Home, 2016

My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton
Smith



Shannon Bryan

Rounded Corners

This piece conveys forced and chosen isolation. Multiple figures appear to force an orb into a corner, separating it and trying to drain it of color and life. The orb holds its own place and continues to glow.



Skyler Hurdle

In Wait

I'm placated with my environment but constantly disgruntled with my body. As a transgender man, and a teenager, I'm bristling with anticipation of moving into the new chapter of my experience and becoming the best "me" that I can be.



Sofia Donald

Who?

This film project was an exploration of my memories and how they define my life and me. As I painted the work, I let my movements mirror my emotions during each time period, with every detail holding some kind of meaning as I worked my way around the page, surrounding home videos with images that define me.

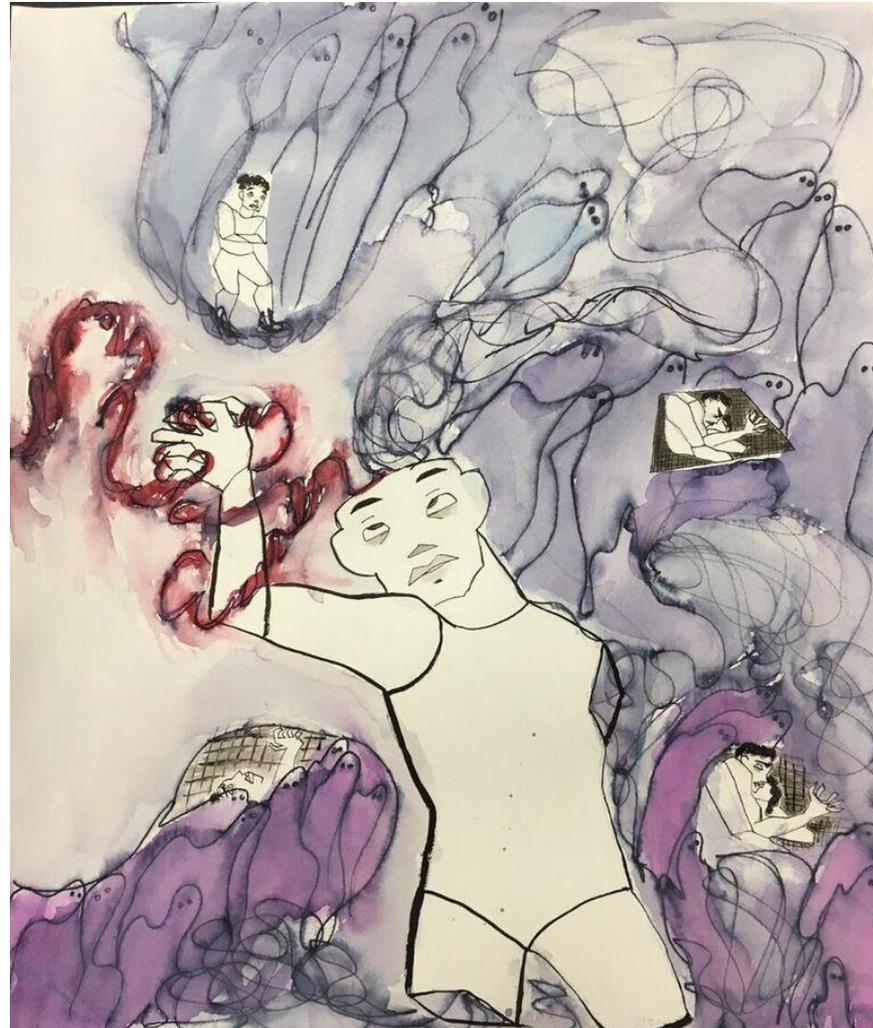
My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, *A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith*

Talia Rhinehart

Overwhelmed

This piece illustrates my struggles of maintaining focus and attention to a single objective when overpowered by countless thoughts. The shapeless figures consuming my little space display how scattered thoughts interfere with making my own personal space.

Pen and ink, marker,
watercolor





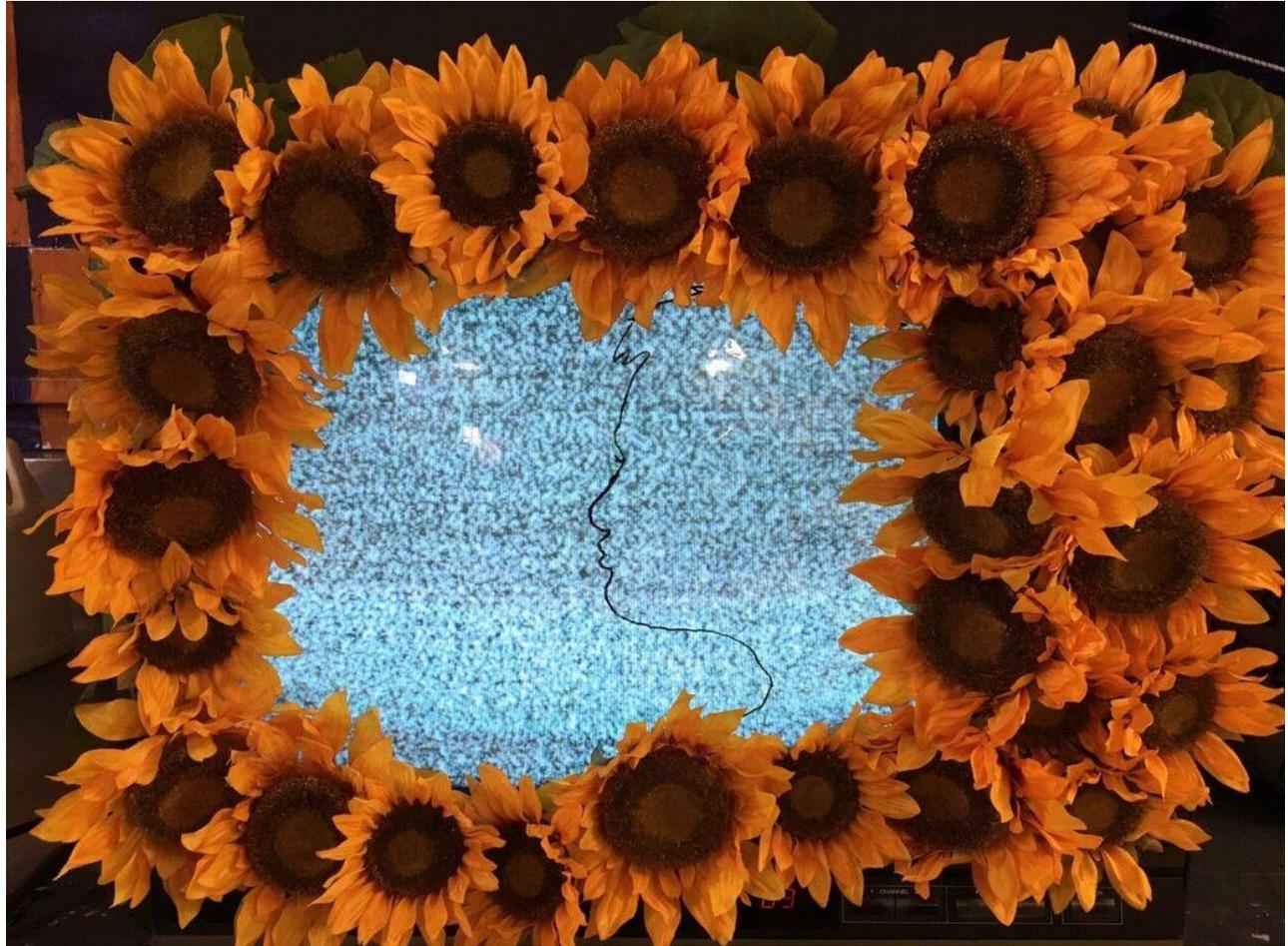
Turner Andrasz

Shadows

Through the constantly changing atmosphere of youth and the many challenges that it brings, my home is the one place that I can happily rely on to stay just the same. I decided to paint my bedroom because it is the space I feel most connected to. The scene has a static aura almost as if time has stopped and the harsh lighting is used to depict the darkness and serenity, as well as the warmth and comfort that the space brings me.

My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith

Vivi Charlap



Static on TV

This piece is a critique of my dissociative perspective of my life earlier in the year. The static represents how fuzzy my mind was before, while the sunflowers represent the growth I've had in the months since last winter.

My Sense of Place: A community addendum to the exhibition, A Sense of Place: Kiki and Seton Smith