

ARTIST STATEMENT

As a multi-cultural artist, I create performances that examine the social-political possibilities for transformation and empathy, through the lenses of dance, philosophy, musicology, science, and the supernatural. I am deeply interested in the notion of identity in my work, as it relates to personal biography, artistic ideals, multiplicity, and geographical context and explore the tension between directional desires and cultural questions of belonging and value.

I am attracted to the intersections between the voice and body, language and movement, meaning and abstraction, form and content. My recent works have blended two main facets: one that deals with language and form as it negotiates interpretation; and one that deals with physical bodies as unfolding subjective identities.

Because of this, my work functions between what is accessible and what is unknown, and similar to my feelings on identity, strives to open a deeper appreciation of the unique space between – the intersection, the bridge, the middle. I have always been driven to create contexts that are aware of its predicament of being, somehow maneuvering through past, present and future in order to find meanings that were lost, but perhaps needing to be found.

Therefore, my choreographic intentions are innately interested in the notion of ontology, as an added layer of complexity, that amplifies the perceptions of belief and devotion to the act of performance.

My practices orient themselves around investigating this ontology through movement experimentation, sound design, linguistics, and context and seek to create spaces where sensations, form, desire, language, symbolism, and ritual converge. More recently, I have found a philosophical and physical opening through Butoh, a contemporary Japanese dance form, where I am confronted by my own identities (half Japanese and half American/European), as a bridge into new thought processes and unknown terrains. With this new research, I am interested in finding a new half-ness, or otherness, within my experience of performing Butoh, one that brings alongside itself disorientation, hybridity, Queer theory, history, and the potential.