

## ARTISTIC STATEMENT:

Growing up in a dysfunctional family has taught me to view pain and suffering as blessings in disguise. My journey through tumultuous teenage years—marrying at 16 and becoming a parent by 19—shaped my resilience in the face of adversity. Moving from Guatemala to Canada introduced me to new challenges that profoundly influenced my perspective.

Suffering is an inextricable part of life that paradoxically coexists with happiness as dialectical opposites. The mental health struggles within my family provided me with a new reality and perspective on how I see life. Creating art has been, for as long as I can remember, a safe space within myself where I can feel free and liberated. Art has the power to heal my spirit and serve as a refuge from my adversities—a resting place.

My floral paintings reflect the delicate yet powerful essence of womanhood, inspired by my homeland and the application of colour by artists like Van Gogh and Monet. Through my artwork, I strive to inspire joy and contemplation, celebrating the richness of life while reflecting the resilience of the human spirit.

Flowers, in their essence, are resilient, adaptable, and strong. They possess the powerful ability to change our moods and express beauty. My floral paintings, from my female point of view, serve as an analogy for the duality of womanhood—gentle yet resilient, fragile yet fierce. Guided by intuition and nostalgia, my works are infused with vibrant hues that echo the landscapes of my homeland; they can be serene yet chaotic.

Studying past artists such as Van Gogh and Monet has significantly influenced my work. I enjoy creating and expressing myself freely, often without references, using acrylics to paint each composition with fresh eyes.