

BFA Senior Thesis Conversations featuring Megan SooHoo

Questions by Daniela Segovia



Megan SooHoo is a LA Native that is currently based in Los Angeles, CA. She is currently obtaining her Bachelor's Degree in Photography and Sculpture from CCA and is expected to graduate in Fall 2021. She mainly works within the realm of photography, sculpture, and installation, but enjoys being multifaceted in various practices. Most of her work conveys the human condition within their surroundings and in most recent years, portrays her own personal experiences through her art practice.

All images shown below are works in progress for her Photography Senior Thesis called *idea of being things you carry things you go through*.

See more of her work on Instagram [@mvsoohoo](https://www.instagram.com/mvsoohoo) or visit her website www.meganvsoohoo.studio.

What is your thesis investigating?

idea of being things you carry things you go through is a body of work that focuses on the traumatic childhood experiences I faced that span two decades. This is the first attempt I have undergone to explore the trauma in a physical form, through the use of family archives and my own photographs. In the process of undergoing countless personal writings to truly understand the extremities of the mental, physical, and sexual abuse I faced. I was able to gain a better understanding of how to cope with what happened to me and really try to flesh out all the things I've been unknowingly holding in. Being forced to return home due to the Pandemic, I found myself confronting the place where all the traumatic events occurred and realized that for me to move forward I need to let the past stay the past. An artist that inspired the creation of this project was the work of Teresa Eng's *Speaking of Scars*. Her ability to put herself through an ordeal, to create a visible language in speaking about trauma and memory, motivated me to push myself to speak up about my past and get this project out into the world.

What or who are your major influences?

My major influences vary, but my all-time favorites would be Yayoi Kusama/[@kusama_archive](https://www.instagram.com/kusama_archive), Ai Weiwei/[@aiww](https://www.instagram.com/aiww), and Olafur Eliasson/[@studiolafureliasson](https://www.instagram.com/studiolafureliasson). These specific artists challenge the concepts of our reality and create a dialogue of what our existence entails and truly delves into the matter at first glance. Some current artists that I am inspired by are Teresa Eng/[@teresaeng](https://www.instagram.com/teresaeng) and Larissa Sansour/[@larissasansour](https://www.instagram.com/larissasansour). Both artists reproach the ideas of our current society and investigate how we can do better with empathetic conversations.





What is the question you are trying to answer for yourself through your practice?

I try to investigate the meaning of our human existence and to do that I feel I need to truly understand my whole self and explore that using my own experiences to divulge that. As for my college experience, I didn't start exploring this question until my 2nd year, where I did various projects examining this concept of life. I hope to gain a better understanding of my own existence with my work and further on be able to explore this concept in its entirety.



What's next for you?

I am currently still working on my Photography Senior Thesis which is due this Spring. However, I am not completely done with my Bachelor's Degree just yet, I have one more semester to finish up my Sculpture Major as well. After college, I hope to gain more experience within the art world and do some residencies or internships here and there. Eventually down the line, I plan on completing my Master's Degree, either focusing on Photography, specifically in Photobooks or Fine Arts as a whole. My dream would be to complete my Masters most likely in another state or abroad.