Embodied Within These Fish

Sheanae Tam

University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
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Art 423 (Advanced Drawing and Painting)
Mentor: Debra Drexler

I come from a family of fishermen and am consistently exposed to the processes of diving, fishing, preparing, eating, and disposing. In my family the daily rituals of life are tangled up in this sustaining practice. Days go by, family issues pile up, overwhelm, and remain unresolved with the changing of the tides. The fishing perpetuates family bonds, yet the images of the dead fish resurface as a mocking reminder of the persistent unspoken undercurrents that plagues the family. I apply acrylic paint, mediums, expressive mark making, and glazing techniques in an attempt to make sense of an unsettling reality.

I am an artist born and raised on Oahu, and finished my Bachelor’s of Fine Arts, with a focus in painting in Spring 2017. I enjoy hiking and diving, and when I’m not creating or teaching art, I like to spend most of my time going on adventures with friends. I hope to further my education and perhaps get my Master’s in Art or Education, so I can teach art to the next generation.