

Working Title:

The Artist as a Cultural Translator: Bridging Self, Culture, and Others through a Matriarchal and Community-Based Lens

Research Question and Rationale:

This project looks at the role of the artist as a cultural translator, focusing on how fine art can connect the self, culture, and others. I want to explore how a matriarchal and community-focused perspective can influence the way artists share cultural stories and ideas. By combining theory and personal experience, I aim to understand how artists can use their own background and identity to build bridges between different cultures and create meaningful connections.

Aims and Objectives:

- **Aim:** To explore how artists, as cultural translators, bring together self, culture, and others, and how these connections are shaped by community with a focus on female community and matriarchal values.
- **Objectives:**
 - Look at how community and matriarchal perspectives affect the artist's role in cultural translation.
 - Understand the ways artists use their personal identity to connect with other cultures.
 - Dive into the theory behind cultural translation and how artists bridge cultural gaps.
 - Perhaps create artwork that shows how these ideas play out in practice, drawing on my own experiences.

Steps to Achieve Aim and Objectives:

- Research existing theories on cultural translation, community-based perspectives, and matriarchal values in art.
- Look at case studies of artists who use their personal stories to connect with others.
- Reflect (as I have been doing all throughout MAIP) on how my own cultural background informs my art practice.
- Create a body of work (e.g., paintings, illustrations, or animation) that explores the ideas of cultural translation and connection.
- Writing a paper to explain how these themes come together in my work.

Methods and Approaches:

- **Research:**
 - Read up on cultural translation, the role of the artist, and how matriarchal/community perspectives influence these topics.
 - Explore feminist and postcolonial literature to see how these ideas connect with the artist's role in cultural exchange.
- **Creative Practice:**
 - Create a series of artworks that explore these ideas, focusing on the themes of connection, identity, and cultural translation.
 - Use my personal background and experiences as a foundation for the work, aiming to communicate the personal side of these cultural narratives.
- **Media Integration:**
 - Creating a video essay (like units 1-3) that brings together the theory and the visual work, where I narrate the ideas while showing the artwork I've created.

Resources and Materials:

- Access to academic resources (books, articles, papers) (Already familiar from previous units).
- Space for creating visual work (Already curated in my flat from previous units' needs).
- Video equipment for filming. (My phone and tripod used for unit 6).
- Software for editing videos and images (Experience from previous Units).
- Feedback from peers/ professors.