

## Artist Statement:

Meshing abstraction and figuration, I create various sized acrylic paintings exploring motherhood. I want to depict the truthful and ordinary scenes of life with children. Taken from my own direct experiences as a mother of two, I use photography to capture moments with my children and use the photos to base the composition. I use charcoal in each of my paintings to sketch out the figures and background, and I often use it to outline my work, mixing it with water to muddy the paint. Not worrying about photorealism, I push my backgrounds to the point of abstraction and my figures are left mostly flat. Though not consciously done, my palette tends to be soft, muted colors or dark and clouded. My work is a direct push against the stigma that women artists have and the expectation to choose between a career and motherhood. My identity as a mother is a large part of me, but being an artist is who I am, and both identities coexist in my work.

*Mom's Don't Always Get To Shower Alone* came about when I wanted to show real situations that moms go through. A lot of moms, myself included, don't always get to shower alone when you have young children at home. I got permission from my daughter to take a photo before we showered and worked from there. I was careful to respect my daughter's privacy and not show too much of her body, and that's why in the painting it's in the perspective of me looking down on her as she plays with a toy.

## Bio:

Myah Baisch, a mother, and artist who lives and works in Humboldt County CA. She is in her senior year, getting her BFA from Humboldt State.