

OUR ART OUR REGION OUR TIME

Stages

48 x 28 inches

Recycled paper tapestry

\$3,000.00



Eloa Jane Pereira

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Bio

Eloa Jane Pereira, a Brazilian-born artist, immigrated to the US in 2005. In 2014 she moved to Northwest Arkansas and had a turning point in her art career with her awarded series Neighbors and Neighborhood. In Brazil, Eloa Jane worked as an architect for 25 years and boasted an impressive portfolio, but despite the success, things were never easy. Weary from the economic obstacles in her country, she moved to the US to rebuild a life for herself and her children. The challenges in this new season once again brought out her artistic bent. Being in a new country, grasping a new language, and relearning how to perform the simplest of tasks, can easily make one feel inadequate. Eloa Jane suffered from the sort of ailments that afflict the soul more than the body. It is difficult to remain cheerful in the face of uncertainty about the future. Her struggle was an outlet, a means of navigating through pain and grief. Art became more than a pastime. She emerged with a heightened need to create and a sense that her happiness did not come from the pursuit of financial comfort and convenience. Instead, it came from filling her days with meaningfulness, resourcefulness, and self-actualization. With little money to buy supplies, she chose paper, specifically the piles of paper stuffed into mailboxes daily, as her way of creating art. That satisfied Eloa Jane's need to, in her own words, "find fulfillment in creating meanings rather than owning disposables." Using an endless supply of trash, she can spread awareness while contributing to saving the earth's resources with her art and lifestyle. The resulting work is instrumentalist in function, imploring the viewer to take stock of our wasteful practices, but at its core, it expresses a distinct sense of hopefulness about the future.

Artist Statement

When I started my artistic career, I looked to the most immediate and most abundant resource I had at my disposal, namely, junk mail. The prospect of reusing what was to become trash appealed to my concern for the environment. Moreover, the transformation of that which is worthless into something valuable resonated with my own journey of reinventing my life. I now create reliefs, tapestries, vases and sculptures out of office paper, magazines, newspapers, phone books, and even coffee filters. I carefully sift and sort through a variety of paper to create a color palette. I then roll, coil, and weave the selected paper to form different textures, shapes, and varying levels of relief. The result is a series of artworks that showcase not only technique but also meaningful personal experiences.