

**Geuryung Lee**

**Artist Statement**

I express the mind and spirit influenced by eastern culture using marks, signs, symbols, gestures, texture, shape, and value to convey situations, context and emotional states of being. I learned calligraphy when I was young and when I use Sumi ink now, I am brought back to my childhood and release my emotions: happiness, sadness, depression, gratitude, passion, and energy as a form of spiritual practice. As an Asian female artist living in NYC – a uniquely diverse, ethnic, cultural and international community – I think about my nostalgia for my home country and my identity as a stranger.

During the pandemic, I have used my notes and words as motifs to explore the coexistence between diversity, nostalgia, immigration, social inequality, and culture. I have been asking myself: What is the life of an artist and art? In this reality, my dilemma has been what can I do best and how to do it now? The pandemic is not over yet, but most people return to their daily lives before the pandemic. Through my work, I will memorize the sacrifice of people and comfort those who have suffered mental injury and stress and congratulate people on returning to daily life and deliver a message of hope.