

Samantha Wall – Artist Statement

My drawing practice is informed by my experiences as a Black-Korean immigrant. A longing to rediscover lost cultural histories, revealing narratives that have shaped me, forms the backbone of my research. That research led me to the serpent-woman archetype as a way to delve into the complexities of Otherness and the ways in which it is represented in modern society. The serpent-woman represents transformation, wisdom, and feminine power, embodying the dual nature of the snake as a symbol of danger and healing. Ultimately, my drawings are a reflection of my experiences as a woman navigating a world that often marginalizes and exoticizes those who are perceived as Other. I aim to evoke the primal and instinctual nature of the serpent-woman, highlighting her femininity and sensuality. In doing so, I hope to challenge the traditional dichotomy of the feminine as passive and the Other as threatening or exotic. Instead, these drawings present a more nuanced and complex portrayal of the serpent-woman as a figure that embodies both power and vulnerability.

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