

## Artist Statement

The project *Turning Point* is rooted in personal experience. My move to the United States became a turning point for growth and adaptation to a new way of life. Even with language skills, education, and inner strength, I felt like an outsider - caught between two worlds, with the fear of being left on the margins. The world around me felt unfamiliar in subtle but meaningful ways: in language, in how emotions were expressed, in how people connected.

True adaptation required more than simply being present. It meant taking action, learning, building new relationships, and allowing vulnerability in the face of another's experience. That step was frightening, but it opened the path to transformation. This exhibition reflects the inner conflict between the desire for safety and the need for change. The work reveals how growth becomes possible only through openness to external experience and the willingness to step beyond what feels familiar.

Any turning point is about shifts, about stepping out of the comfort zone. Every person's turning point is different: a career change, the loss of someone close, or the beginning of a new path. For me, it was immigration. My works capture the inner movement that takes place at the edge of the known and the unknown - moments that spark transformation and mark the beginning of change.