

Pearlyn Tan
Ceasefire
Ink on rice paper
16 x12 inches
2025
\$290

I'm drawn to the fragile, unpredictable nature of rice paper—how it interacts with ink and water, often dissolving with the lightest touch. I wanted to create a body of work that reflects the volatility and fragility of the world as it is today. By mixing materials that don't traditionally complement each other—such as delicate rice paper and water—I sought to mirror that precarious tension. Yet within that vulnerability, something quietly magical begins to unfold. The work invites viewers to find light in the delicate and the tender amidst the dark undertone, and to see beauty in what is often overlooked or underestimated. The act of letting go—of allowing ink to spread freely, guided more by intuition than control—becomes a meditative gesture, a way to process and respond to the surrounding chaos. In this surrender, new forms emerge—unexpected, inclusive, full of possibility. Created with a heavy heart and light hands, this series is an act of emotional release: a quiet offering in which darkness is gently transformed into waves of color, drifting through inner landscapes and still, contemplative emotional terrains. Pearlyn explores a common thread of growth and transformation with themes of motherhood and nature. She is a Portland based visual maker, originally from Singapore, currently focusing on printmaking and painting. She teaches printmaking workshops in several local studios and her work is a part of private and public collections including the Portland Public Art Collection, Beaverton Public Collection and OSU College of Agriculture & Sciences.

