

# IN OHIO

CURATOR: CHAR NORMAN



APRIL 26 - JULY 2, 2025

## *In Ohio*

Virtual Scavenger Hunt and Reflection Exercise



The Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery presents *In Ohio*, an exhibition curated by Char Norman—featuring contemporary works of art by 16 artists who live and work in Ohio.

Take a look at the following images, “Lockdown/Breakout” by Jenniffer Omaitz. Who do you think lived here? Is there a room that reminds you of somewhere you have lived or where you currently live?




Artwork Credit: Jenniffer Omaitz, "Lockdown/Breakout"









“It is inspired by international architects who started designing to address space constraints and refocusing on how to create a sense of community and reduce the environmental footprint.”

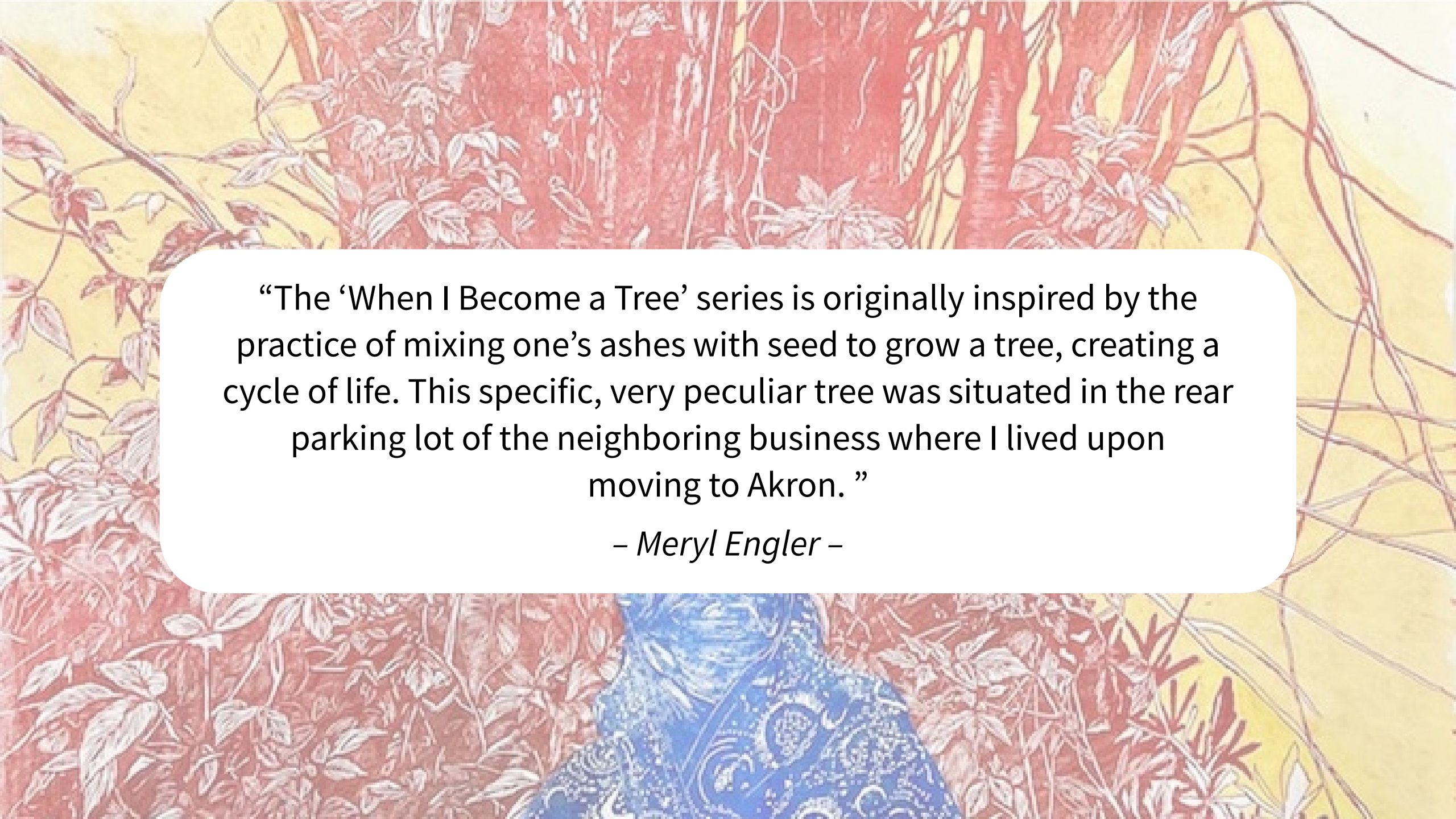
– *Jennifer Omaitz* –



Take a look at “When I Become A Tree  
Aflame/All the Stars in the Sky” by  
Meryl Engler. How do you feel when  
you are surrounded by nature?

Image Credit: Meryl Engler,  
“When I Become A Tree Aflame/All the Stars in the Sky”





“The ‘When I Become a Tree’ series is originally inspired by the practice of mixing one’s ashes with seed to grow a tree, creating a cycle of life. This specific, very peculiar tree was situated in the rear parking lot of the neighboring business where I lived upon moving to Akron. ”

– *Meryl Engler* –



Take a look at “Out and About” by Rod Hayslip. Where do you think these figures are going or where did they come from?

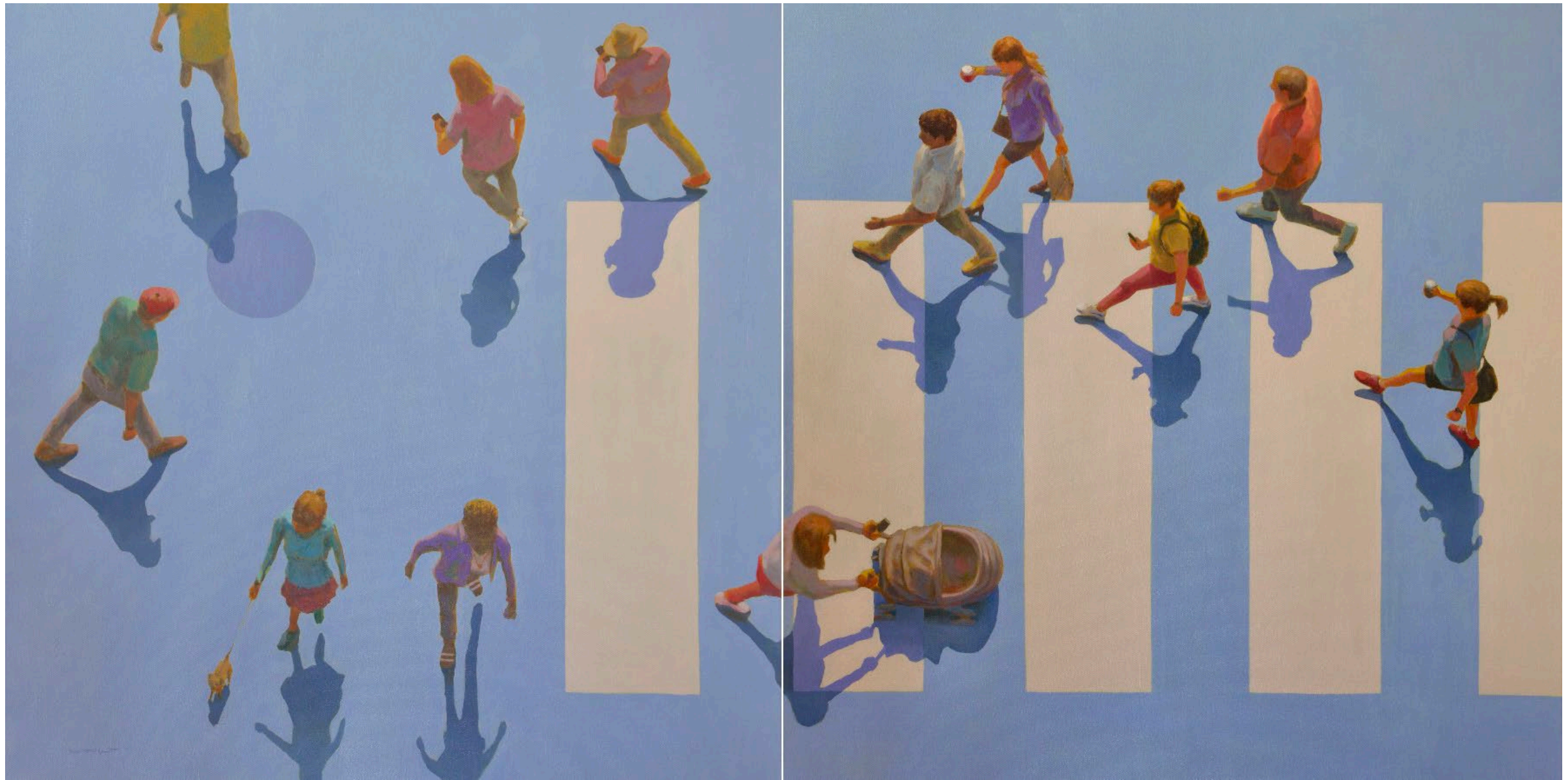


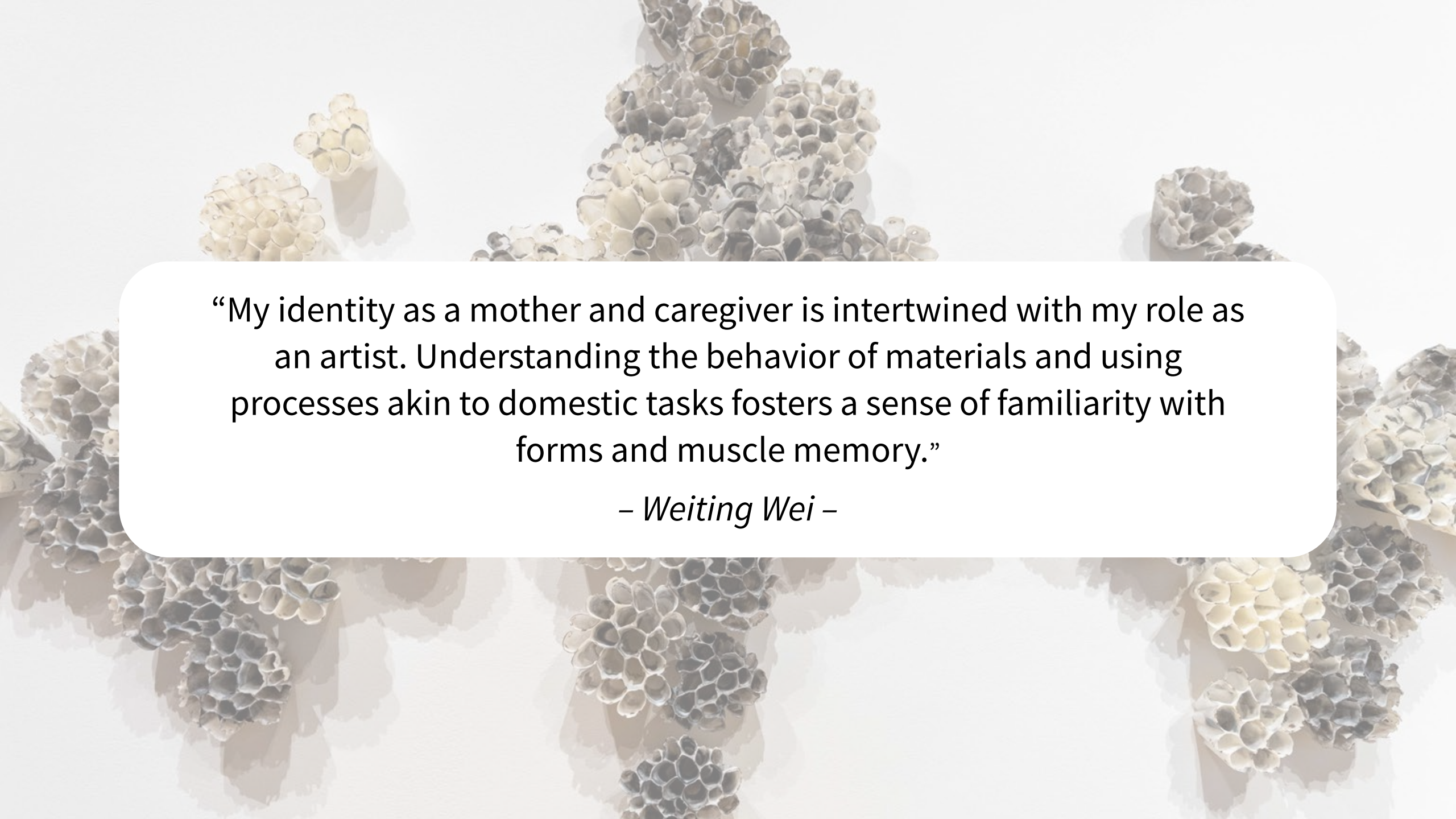
Image Credit: Rod Hayslip, "Out and About"



There is a figure within  
“Lost 2” by Weiting Wei.  
How does this change how  
you interpret the piece?



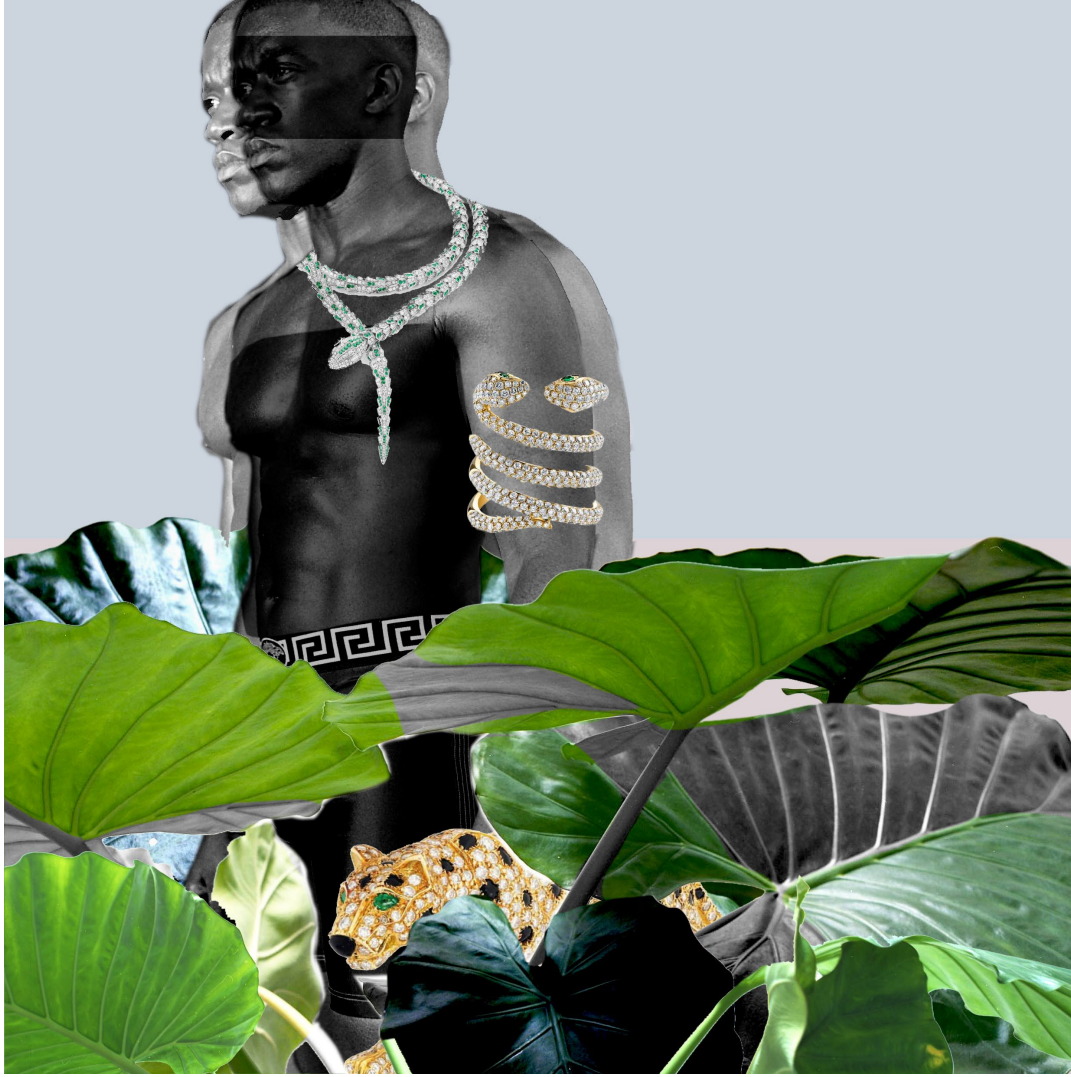
Artwork Credit: Weiting Wei, “Lost 2”

The background of the image features several clusters of honeycomb structures, likely made of beeswax or a similar material. These structures are composed of numerous small, hexagonal cells, creating a complex, textured pattern. The honeycombs are arranged in a way that they appear to be floating or scattered across a light, neutral background. The lighting is soft, casting gentle shadows that emphasize the three-dimensional nature of the structures. The overall aesthetic is clean and organic, with a focus on natural patterns and textures.

“My identity as a mother and caregiver is intertwined with my role as an artist. Understanding the behavior of materials and using processes akin to domestic tasks fosters a sense of familiarity with forms and muscle memory.”

– *Weiting Wei* –





Thanks for engaging with the arts! As always, the Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery would love to see the artwork you've made in response to the exhibition and hear what you've learned. Find us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), and our [website](#).

Image Credit: Gavi Benjamin, "I Have Seen That Face Before-2"



WRITING WORKSHOP

**PAULA J. LAMBERT**

Image Credit: Paula J. Lambert

28 videos

## Riffe Gallery Do It Yourself (DIY) Workshops

Are you looking for more ways to engage with the arts on your own?

Check out [our playlist of DIY workshops](#) from artists featured at the Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery!