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Artist Statement 2015

I’m someone that always thinks and relives the past. There are comments (mostly bad) that stick with me for years and I have no way to release them. I started experimenting with my feelings for my family and how they affect my life and my actions. I began collecting family photos and trying to show their meaning to myself. Layering is very important in my work because when I reflect back on a memory, they come in waves not just one instant. I tried to reflect that in my work.

I then began to try to find myself and my identity. In my digital prints I explored the past and the present with images of my mother and father and how I relate to them in the present. The images reflect the past and the present mixing. Looking back at the past but reflecting on the present. My looping videos display my Dominican culture and the importance of dance and music. The looping video projections display different shots from an old salsa video and I projected them onto myself and recorded myself interacting with the video.

During my time creating these pieces and reflecting back on my ideas, I have always tried to run away from my appearance, my personality, my culture, and just life in general. Therefore with these pieces I hope to embrace the things that I am afraid of and try to move forward. I would like for people to be able to relate to these feelings of searching for an identity and struggling to find who they are.