

# UNTOLD STORIES: CONTEMPORARY ASIAN ART

## ARTMAKING ACTIVITY - UNTOLD STORIES COLLAGE

### CORRESPONDING VIDEO

Domestic Settings, 2020 is a painting by contemporary Asian American artist Phung Huynh. It depicts a white dollhouse with a donut and a young woman at a sewing machine inside. The donut is a reference to the donut shop businesses that Cambodian refugees frequently took on upon settling in the United States, particularly in Southern California. The pinkish background may be a reference to the pink boxes that donuts are often held in, which came about through the innovation of Cambodian American entrepreneurs. The young woman is the artist's mother who worked as a seamstress during their time at a Thai refugee camp, like many women in that situation.

In this video lesson, we will reflect upon families, where our stories come from, and our agency, while collaging.

## MATERIALS

white sheet of paper or construction paper, glue or tape, scrap paper or magazines, scissors, pencil, markers, and an eraser.

## VOCABULARY

**Agency:** the capacity of individuals to act independently and to make their own free choices

**Domestic:** relating to the running of a home or to family relations

**Intergenerational:** relating to, involving, or affecting several generations (aunts, uncles, cousins, and kids of different ages)

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Think about where the stories you are depicting came from. Were they passed down from family member to family member? Are they from your memory? How do you think your image would be different if your loved ones made their own? How do you think your story would differ if somebody outside of your family were to tell it?



Domestic Settings  
2019-2020  
Acrylic on canvas  
Overall: 62 in x 53 in  
Gift of the Artist  
2021.2.1

## STANDARDS

### **History–Social Science for California Public Schools Content Standards**

10.4 - Students analyze patterns of global change in the era of New Imperialism in at least two of the following regions or countries: Africa, Southeast Asia, China, India, Latin America, and the Philippines.

10.9 - Students analyze the international developments in the post–World War II world

11.9 - Students analyze U.S. foreign policy since World War II

### **Visual and Performing Arts Content Standards for California Public Schools**

4.1 - Articulate how personal beliefs, cultural traditions, and current social, economic, and political contexts influence the interpretation of the meaning or message in a work of art.

4.2 - Identify the intentions of artists creating contemporary works of art and explore the implications of those intentions.

### **Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum**

Guiding Values and Principles of Ethnic Studies

2. Celebrate and honor Native People/s of the land and communities of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color by providing a space to share their stories of success, community collaboration, and solidarity, along with their intellectual and cultural wealth

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [We Are Here: Contemporary Art and Asian Voices in Los Angeles](#)
- [PHUNG HUYNH](#)
- [Artist Captures the Khmerican Donut Kid Experience](#)