

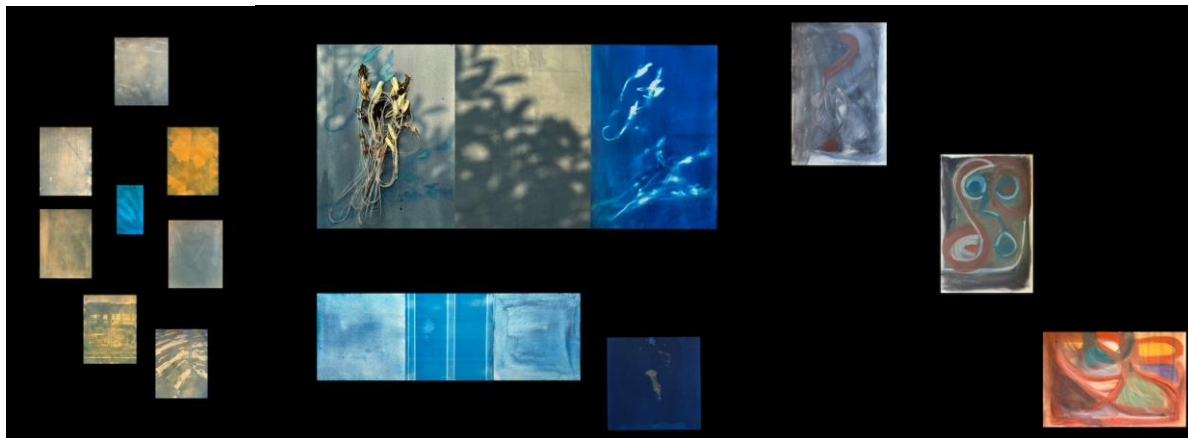
# Redefining Home Through Architecture, Movement and Placement

Andria Polo Brizuela, Class of 2022

## Artist Statement:

After emigrating to the United States as a 10-year-old, I was unable to connect with my new home and often spent time imagining the places I was supposed to belong to in Cuba. To better understand my disconnection, I traveled to Manila; a city in the Philippines with high internal migration rate and lack of housing. Due to this lack of infrastructure, people build makeshift places, creating a mix of non-normative public and private spaces to live. Traveling throughout the city, visiting countless galleries, and finding myself in public spaces that exist as their own version of the art of living, inspired me to create these three series that explore the transient nature of being and existing in physical spaces.

The *Movements Series* utilizes the cyanotype process to print photographs of places and objects found in the Philippines and the United States. These faded prints hold small hints of home for me, encompassing the duality of the recognizable and the forgotten. Finding symbols of my Hispanic culture in Manila helped me realize what I identify with home. I will continue searching for these symbols as I redefine where I can belong after leaving Cuba. The *Placement Series* uses physical and abstract components I collected throughout my stay to explore permanence and the transient emotional state of living in a new space. These components included sampaguita flowers (an offering commonly given to Saints in the Philippines), shadows from the structural form of my room and dust from the windows. The *Thoughts Series* was created using cleaning wipes and oil pastels, utilizing gestural movements to fuse and subtract colors from the paper, referencing the cyclical nature of looking for a space that is lost to the past while experiencing the present.



[Movements Series](#)

[Placements Series](#)

[Thoughts Series](#)

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