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Showreel

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ARTIST STATEMENT

"What doesn't transmit light creates its own darkness" Marcus Aurelius.

As a child growing up in Lebanon, I remember going to church with my mother. Instead of listening to the sermon, I watched the sun filter through the stained glass windows and marveled at the beams cutting through the incense in the air and creating psychedelic shapes on the ground. Renaissance paintings would become a major source of inspiration for my work with their ordered warm umber compositions and complex layering through light. I mostly admire the painters' use of key light and fill light on faces. Renaissance painters were masters of contrast and I've always believed that shadow is as important as light itself because it creates depth and perception of space.

I grew up in a region marred by conflict and have traveled extensively around the world. These experiences have enriched my color space and my visual language. They led me to discover film as a language that unites, as a visual language that transcends barriers. Everyday, I immerse myself in my surroundings and absorb the wide spectrum of colors and movement around me. What begins as observations of scenes and of people walking in and out of my 35mm frame translates into a sequence of moving images which tell a story. And I become part of that story.

I continue to move forward and evolve with modern technologies and yet, I often find myself going back to my analogue camera to recenter, refocus, and reframe; to seek the graininess and the softness in the monochrome. Going back to the analogue camera is not, in my opinion, moving backwards. On the contrary, I believe it gives a deeper appreciation for the modern. One needs to go back to old techniques sometimes in order to enrich the new.

My art is forever evolving. I constantly seek new experiences and as a recent immigrant to the US, I want to merge what I've learned with what I will learn in my new home. I seek to transform my art through time, unifying where I came from with who I will become.