

Alejandra Almuelle

Artist Statement

The focus of my work is the human form. The body fascinates me. It not only carries our genetic memory, but it is the biological archive of experience. We are historically shaped and conditioned by the environment and by the same socioeconomic constructs we have participated in creating. The human body is both witness and event, as well as the field where these two aspects are at play. My work points to this juncture. Through the human form in its different iterations, I shift attention beyond form to what is implicit: the event, the experience that has taken place.

I hand build using slabs of clay. This technique allows sculpting simultaneously from inside and outside the form. This process reflects the interplay between the body and the world. A world that expresses itself in our biology, and a body that leaves its imprint on the world it inhabits. The slab of clay becomes the metaphorical ground where that interaction takes shape.

Clay is a receptive medium to work with. It is malleable but it pushes back. Open to be shaped, it asks for the same, having a bearing on the outcome of the work. Clay is appropriate for expressing the human journey. It is of the land, connects us to the land, and finally is what the body returns to.