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Abstract

These paintings are about embodiment, pains, struggles and joys, power and agency, based on a long career of research on women's experiences of the body as well as an artistic autoethnographic investigation.

Keywords: Arts, embodiment, fatness, autoethnography, power

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Blue
Mixed Media on canvas, 10” x 10”, 2020
Collection of Natalie Beausoleil

Artist Statement: This painting is part of my reflection and years of research on health and illness, beauty, bodies, and embodiment. Many women have shared with me the pains and joys of their bodies, the stories of struggles, ugliness and beauty marked on their bodies, each unique yet shaped and contextualized by larger social relations.
Moving
Mixed Media on canvas, 12” x 17”, 2021
Collection of Natalie Beausoleil

Artist Statement: This painting is part of my autoethnographic work on embodiment and fatness. This gestural painting is based on a seashell with its multiple facets and is about moving and joy in a body that is not “ideal” according to dominant notions of beauty in our culture. This painting is about the flow of folding into oneself and empowering oneself through art.