

# MAYA ZANE KAISTH

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I think of my work as creating magic. Magic is a feeling of wonder, euphoria, inexplicable disruption. I use wind and light as materials, making installations that submerge my viewers into new worlds. I explore striking fabrics and plastics and create life-like movement within my works. Though my work does not discuss identity in an obvious way, who I am seeps through every work created. My aesthetics come from my eclectic Italian grandmother, who adorns herself in costume jewelry and burns chicken feathers for luck. My aesthetics come from memories of fragrant food and unparalleled vibrancy traveling through my father's homeland, India, as a child.

I have a big dream. As the daughter of Italian-American and an Indian immigrant, my experiences as a biracial woman are inextricably linked to my practice. Experiencing off-key racism and sexism firsthand, and seeing the contemporary art world discuss such hatred with beauty and empathy, has led me to create, curate and support socially engaging works. A large part of this realm of my practice is organizing, attending community based events, fundraising and researching methods of communication.

Ultimately, my goal is to change our political and social landscape by creating engaging public works. I want to offer a slice of beauty to my viewers, and push them to consider the world outside of themselves.