

Letitia R. Bajuyo

Swing Set: Share a Share (Duyan: Ibahagi ang Balato), 2023

This sculptural installation features a swing set composed of twenty seats. Inspired by roundabouts where drivers must communicate through eye contact and hand gestures in order to navigate the junctures between roads safely, in *Share a Share*, participants need to communicate as they share their part of the swing set. The swing set challenges participants to engage actively, to look around, and to be aware of others when experiencing the sculpture. Visually inspired by gothic architecture and spider's legs and webs, the structure holding up the swings locks together into a geometric pattern that radiates from the hub of this sculptural wheel. The wood seats of the swing are carved, sculpted, and personalized by members of the Filipinx Artists of Houston. Each seat is a portrait - a story. These voices share the swing set as a community whose backgrounds and lived experiences have been translated into a space where each story contributes to the collective.

Leticia R. Bajuyo creates visual poems, drawings, sculptures, and site-responsive installations that are inspired by the cyclical patterns. Bajuyo's continued research of cultural privilege and internalized pressures of assimilation yields a drive to create visions of comfort, containment, and control that question their own existence while inviting interaction. Bajuyo seeks community and collaboration by participating in collectives such as the Filipinx Artists of Houston and Land Report Collective as well as serving on Boards of Directors for Public Art Dialogue and the Mid-South Sculpture Alliance. Originally from a small, rural town on the border of Illinois and Kentucky, she received a B.F.A. from the University of Notre Dame and an M.F.A. from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Currently, she creates, lives, works, and teaches in Norman, Oklahoma where Bajuyo is an Assistant Professor of Sculpture at the University of Oklahoma.