*Habitat* is a series of work visualizing the concept of home, mobility, comfort, and the contrast between exterior ideations and interior realizations.

*Organism 1* is painted in pink and blue blocks, illuminated with yellow windows. The black outline allows for the depiction of a dream-like solution to mobility. *Organism 1* is friendly and free yet contained in its idealism.

*Organism 2* reflects the inside of the idealistic dream house, representing the essence of a settled dynamic conversing at the dinner table. The canvas itself is an empty purple room, while the unstretched fabric is sewn into the canvas using bright pink thread, painted using only paint tubes and a palette knife. The contrast between stretched and unstretched, finely painted and rough suggestions, allows for the crude combination of a true reality and desired reality.

*Organism 3* illustrates a similar technique utilized with *Organism 2*, in which the paint is applied directly from the tube to the canvas, using the paint tube as a drawing tool. The colors used within this painting differ from the first two in the series, furthering the notion that the feeling has shifted, while maintaining the intuition present throughout the series. The rough outlines depict a creature that is stuck in the rain, its crudely drawn legs being the only indication of movement. While this house is illuminated by similar yellow windows as before, there is a sense of sadness as it walks through the rain alone.

The mural *Family Portrait* is a play on classical portraiture, portraying a family of houses, each containing arms, legs, and personalities. The houses relate to each other in style yet employ their own individuality. This mural can be found on the third-floor lobby area of Frances Warde Hall Carlow University.

This series reveals the idea of home as creatures of desire, exploring the duality of desire itself. Evolving from a dream-like sense of freedom to the alienation of want, *Habitat* reflects an interior longing onto structural realities.

Marie Mejia

Organism 1: Aviation

Acrylic

24x30

2022

Marie Mejia

Organism 2: Navigation

Acrylic, unstretched canvas, thread

24x30

2022

Marie Mejia

Organism 3: Leaky Plumbing

Acrylic, oil pastel

16x40

2022