The idea of home has always been important to me. The three places that I consider home are East Palo Alto, California; San Ignacio, Mexico; and Haverford, Pennsylvania. Be it in a positive or negative light, these places have all become familiar to me over the years. It is this familiarity that makes me think of them as home. My landscape drawings are of locations that I am accustomed to seeing when I am in California, Mexico, and Pennsylvania.

I include smaller “study” pieces and sketches that show the progression of this body of work. Working on the study pieces, I found that overall compositional direction contributes a great deal to the meaning of each place I depict. My Haverford drawing is a diagonal, my California drawing is horizontal, and my Mexico drawing doesn’t have a clear direction. The sharp diagonal in my Haverford piece leads into an unclear space, which creates an uneasy feeling. I present Mexico as an unfamiliar world, therefore I feel that the compositional direction doesn’t need to be specified. The horizontal nature in my California piece helps create a larger space that feels continuous.

California, Mexico, and Haverford are very different from one another, so it is fitting that they represent different types of home for me. I depict this contrast, not only by the different types of landscapes, but also by using light and general openness of the areas I present.