What would happen if every human on earth suddenly fell into pieces? My work aims to explore the rebuilding process and relationships formed through recovering from such an event. Construction begins slowly, as only remnants of parts cooperate to re-form complete beings. As whole figures emerge, however, the process picks up speed.

While some rebuild themselves according to man’s original form, others are more creative. One person may possess the attributes her closest friend needs. In this case, the two combine their assets. Another individual could find no use for their old parts and delight in living their life as a foot.

Overall, my art conveys a message of embracing flaws and helping those in need. In this series, many figures and parts inhabit a single domestic space. Although each is unique and imperfect, they happily coexist and work to make each other’s spirits whole. The figures are placed in a domestic setting so an audience can more easily relate to them. My intention is to create a world that feels as comfortable as a viewer’s home and where “flawed,” unusual, or incomplete characters are seen not only as acceptable, but also as beautiful.

I choose to work primarily in etching because of the quality of line this method allows an artist to produce. My aesthetic relies heavily on fine outlines and hatch marks, so achieving crisp, clear lines is of great importance. Furthermore, printmaking has the benefit of making multiples. This allows for experimentation with colors of ink and can lead to mixed media approaches as well.

I have also chosen to incorporate lithographs into my work. Although lithography doesn’t deliver the same crisp imagery as etching does, it gives the opportunity to translate drawings directly into prints. Therefore, as compared to etching, this process is relatively quick and practical.

In presenting my pieces, old photo frames were chosen to house each print. Frames, in general, are important to this collection. For me, the act of framing an object marks it as something of value. Therefore, placing the prints in a frame strengthens their meaning. Additionally, these frames are meant to enhance feelings of intimacy within my work by mimicking the aesthetic of family photographs. Ultimately, I hope these figures can act as friends or relatives to a viewer, teaching them to see brightness in dark places and to feel love for themselves and others.