

## Artist Statement:

This is a series of illustrations I created about my exploration in Manhattan's Chinatown. As a Chinese international student who lived in New York City for six years, Chinatown has always been a safe haven for me. Whenever I feel alone, I go there and see my people hustling on the street, watch grandpas and grandmas sing, play cards in Columbus Park, and smell authentic Chinese food on the street. It always encourages me and brings me a sense of belonging and joy. I wanted to capture the essence of the local Chinese community's daily life and let more people respect and appreciate our Chinese culture.

