

## ANA ŽANIĆ | ARTIST STATEMENT

Often reminiscent of imaginary landscapes, my watercolor paintings evolve through an explorative, intuitive process. I find myself repeatedly drawn to a certain quiet tension between the fluidity, softness, and calm of the loose watercolor washes, versus the dynamic, rhythm, and energy of intricate marks. For me, watercolor holds inherent qualities of intimacy, lightness, and spontaneity. It is authentic in a way that there is no covering up. Its transparency shows the entire creative process. I love that aspect of its vulnerability – it resembles life itself.

I have always been drawn to water. Ever since I was born and up into my mid-twenties, my family and I would spend summers on the coast of Adriatic, in my homeland Croatia. I developed an intimate connection with the sea, and its many wonders.

My "Reef" series is inspired by my childhood memories from the times spent by the seaside and is a deep reflection upon the growing environmental dangers our oceans and seas around the globe are facing today.