

I once heard a tale about three blind Indians who stood by an elephant, attempting to describe it.

“Ah, the elephant is thick, round, and sturdy like a tree trunk,” said the first Indian as he ran his hand over the creature’s leg.

“No, no!” said the second Indian, who had grasped the elephant’s tail. “The animal is thin, coarse, and whip-like”.

“You are both wrong!” cried the third, whose hands stroked the length of the tusk. “The elephant is smooth and hard like marble, and as sharp as a spear.”

No person in this tale was wrong... or completely right. Each view presented only a portion of the bigger picture: a picture that only existed at the intersection of the individual truths.

On this principle, I have explored diverse mediums in my development as an artist. I have sculpted in clay and built mosaics for installation. I have choreographed dances and performed in theatrical dance. I’ve played taiko (Japanese drumming) and I’ve authored multiple manuscripts. I’ve created illustrations and I’ve studied everything from chemistry to yoga to neuro-linguistics to business. This broad and deep knowledge base allows me to forge... or perhaps to reveal... previously unseen connections between seemingly disparate realms.

My aim is to reveal these multiple perspectives by juxtaposing and combining different media, highlighting the proverbial ‘elephant’ from different vantage points at once. This grant will give me the opportunity to combine dance, taiko, and video in a unique solo performance exploring the essence of “woman” from the viewpoints of rhythm, live human movement, imagery, and interviews.

I want to explore with the audience where those individual realities might intersect to provide a glimpse of a larger, more universal truth.

At the convergence of these individual truths, we might discover a wider glimpse of the elephant.