



Academia Hanging by a Thread

ALINE R. S. S. DE SOUZA

ARTWORK



ABSTRACT

This painting represents how I see my research. Yet, you might see other meanings in the piece. I was told that many in academia feel this way about their work, and that universities are facing multiple crises. Art can transmit an affective and embodied experience in a way that words cannot. In my research, I propose that arts-based research is a way to approach and study complex themes in the humanities; but what I hear around me during this time of crisis is hopelessness. I hear that theory, talking, storytelling, visual arts, performing arts, nothing matters academically, because they do not make a difference in our communities and cannot cause a positive impact. Is that so?

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art; crisis; hopelessness

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Title: Academia hanging by a thread.

Medium: Pen and watercolor on paper

Size: 9 × 12 inches

Date finished: March 7th, 2025

Author: Aline de Souza

COMPETING INTERESTS

The author has no competing interests to declare.

AUTHOR AFFILIATIONS

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