

*Where the Self Resides*

Once, while home alone, doing what most kids do when left to their own devices, I decided to enter the forbidden zone of my parents' room. Exploring their closet, I came across a wooden box containing glass jars filled with unfamiliar substances that look liked solid-colored jam. Rummaging further, I found a painting of a bird perched among leaves bearing the same colors, and it occurred to me what was in those jars. By making this connection, I also realized that my often-absent mother was not always consumed by mental illness, and as I longed for her presence, I decided to find out more about this hidden person by becoming an artist too. Over time, I understood that by chasing this illusion I was fostering a means of self-revelation which, to this day, is the essence of my art and informs my use of media and techniques as narrative conveyances. So please, continue to wander this site and its growing accumulation of visual stories designed to connect with the imagination in ways that could encourage a little girl to follow her curiosity and find who she might be and where she might journey next.

Sally Lelong