

I am looking deeply at this particular time in my practice, especially my work process - that starts with material sourcing - collecting papers, discarded gift wrap, card and many trips to craft or discount shops to find things that are friendlier to me; cutting the papers into confetti and being drawn to the sound tak, tak, tak...that the paper makes as I perforate each with a single punch perforator; and picking the dots with a round sewing pin and placing it on the work surface to create a form, the light sound that it makes, this constant repetition, bouncing back and forth, the crack sound from pencil or charcoal when I draw.

All these sounds collectively transport me to so many different situations in different spaces, be it meeting my subject for the first time, the stories they shared with me, stories of joy, laughter, tears, sadness, disappointments or even complete nothingness, their thoughts on different issues, issues I might never be able to fix as I pick up a thread and weave yet a new memory.

Tak, tak tak...

Oh! Yes, I am talking about the sounds my materials make, the jiggle or whip sound the fibre make when I thread and how therapeutic these sounds are to me and yet probably disturbing to some other people.

In all these, my subject matter or narrative have not changed. My work focuses on subjects of identity, equality, memory, culture, migration and colonialism. I use the body and experiences of the female gender, archival materials and memories of my childhood in tackling these subjects and the artistic outcome is a combination of installation with mediums such as paper, paint, charcoal, fibre, sculpture, video, photography and performance.

I have become so engrossed in the use of these materials, how I am going to paint or sculpt them, is it going to be all perforated paper, combined with other materials such as acrylic paint, oil stick, wool or charcoal? Should I perform it - Tak Tak Tak Tak... it's the poetics of these activities that has brought me to this moment of thought.