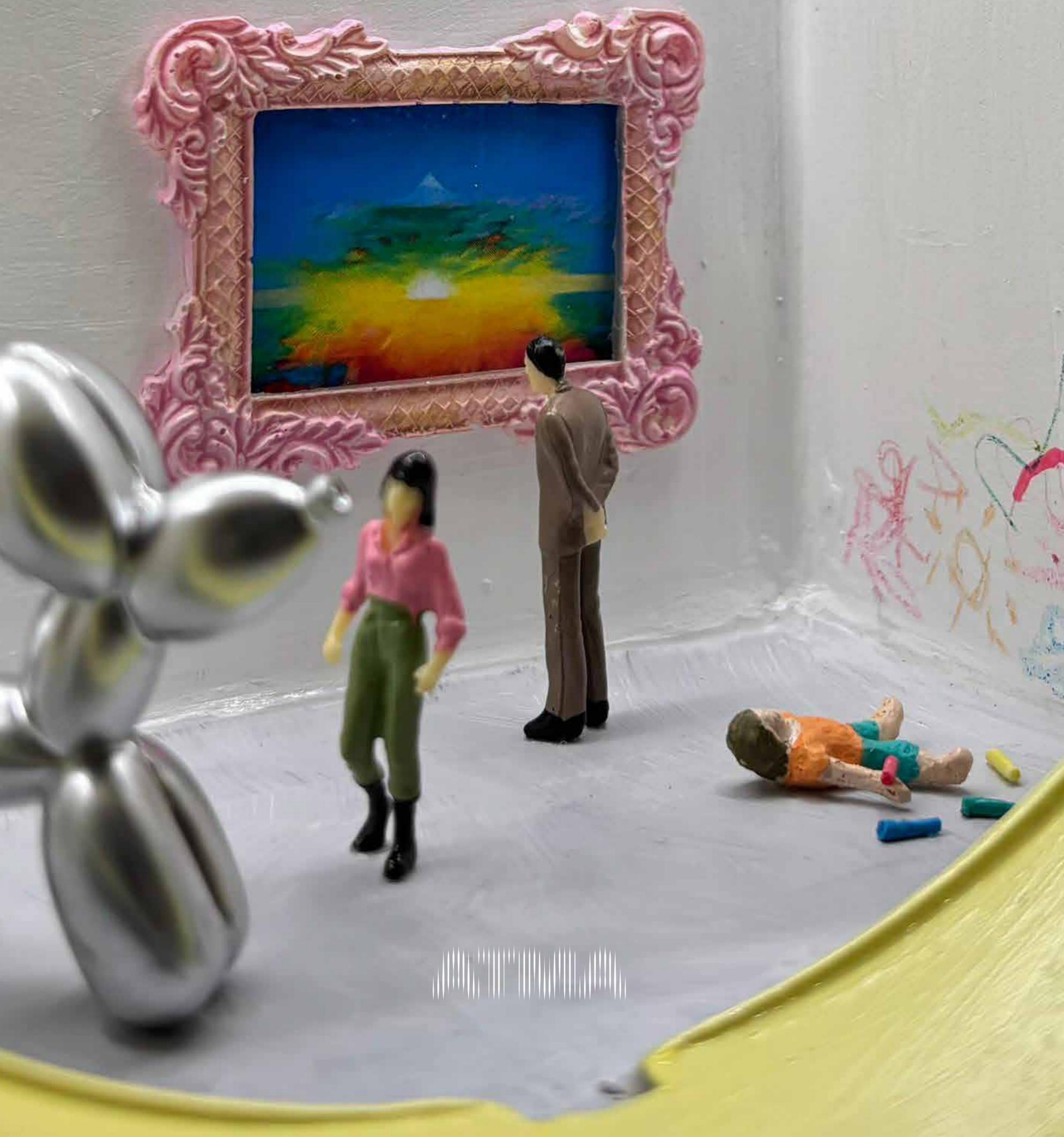


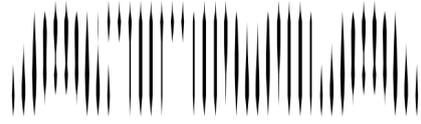
The Living Room:

On Small Terms

Project Room by *Alia Ismail*

30 Jan - 19 Feb 2026





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While *A Measurement of Things* examines how scale, value, and measurement shape our perception of the world, this room presents works by Alia Ismail that dwell in what exists beyond formal measurement and the quiet architecture of domestic life.

Working in miniature, Alia compresses complex emotional and lived realities into intimate scenes shaped by limited time, shared spaces, and emotional endurance. Each work is housed within found domestic objects that function as both shelter and boundary, mirroring how artistic practice must often survive within the constraints of everyday life.

The appearance of famous artworks on the walls of these miniature interiors acts as symbolic presences — distant yet persistent — representing aspiration, artistic lineage, and the quiet hope of recognition that remains present even as daily life unfolds in the foreground.



Paused, Still Becoming What It Cannot Be
Mixed media (Polymer clay, resin, acrylic paint, and
found objects), 17 x 24 cm, 2026







Paused, by Responsibility
Mixed media (Polymer clay, resin, acrylic paint, and found objects), 12.5 x 32 cm, 2026





Paused, The Dream Remains Unfinished
Mixed media (Polymer clay, resin, acrylic paint, and
found objects), 25.5 x 31.5 cm, 2026





Paused, Where the Dream Walls in the Kitchen
Mixed media (Polymer clay, resin, acrylic paint, and found objects), 22 x 15 cm, 2026





Paused, Where the Dream Begins
Mixed media (Polymer clay, resin, acrylic paint, and
found objects), 26 x 30 cm, 2026





Paused, Tea Saved for After
Mixed media (Polymer clay, resin, acrylic paint, and found objects), 25.5 x 28 cm, 2026

Alia Ismail

My artworks reflect my lived reality as a full-time mother while continuing to dream of becoming an artist. Hand sculpted in polymer clay and presented within found objects, each miniature environment stages moments drawn from domestic life, isolation, and quiet endurance. These small scenes are not imagined narratives, but personal truths shaped by limited time, shared spaces, and emotional experiences.

The found objects that house each work function as both shelter and boundary. They echo how my artistic practice must exist within the materials, spaces, and opportunities already available to me, often borrowed from everyday household life. Working in miniature allows me to compress complex emotions into intimate spaces, mirroring how personal ambition is often reduced or postponed within the responsibilities of motherhood.

Within each scene, famous paintings appear on the walls as symbolic presences. These artworks represent aspiration, artistic lineage, and the persistent hope of recognition to the dream of one day being seen not only as a mother, but as an artist. Positioned quietly in the background, they reflect how this ambition remains present yet distant, admired from afar while daily life unfolds in the foreground.

Through this work, I explore the tension between visibility and invisibility, ambition, and obligation. The act of carefully sculpting these scenes becomes a form of devotion to both motherhood and art asserting that creative identity does not disappear, even when it must survive in small, hidden, or fragile spaces.



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