

Yaneli Delgado is an artist from South Central Los Angeles. Her work is often inspired by written works, storytelling, history, culture, and artists of color. In this work of art, Ngugi wa Thiong'o's short story, "The Upright Revolution" allowed her to reflect on how mother earth and the human beings need one another to live and cultivate. A quote that stood out to her was "Even in the water, [the body] worked well together to help the body float, swim or dive." Water in many cultures represents fertility. Although the story examines the internal conflicts of the body, she wanted to depict how everything around us works well when they help one another just like the end of the story when the organs and limbs all worked together.

The process of this print began by learning about the author's background and storytelling. Yaneli was intrigued by how he uses writing in his indigenous language to share with the world the significance of how colonial history plays an important role in today's culture. She was also intrigued by wa Thiong'o's belief of translation which allows people to interact with one another. Yaneli wanted to focus on water, fertility, and nature. As she also uses culture in her artwork, she wanted to share her knowledge in the Mexica (Aztec) culture with others. In this artwork she wanted to experiment a little outside of her conceptual artwork and work with both abstract and conceptual themes. Yaneli hopes viewers can give their own interpretation of her artwork because at the end of the day, by conversing and translating thoughts from this visual, this allows for one another to learn from other cultures, which is an important concept in this Ngugi wa Thiong'o's story.