

## WONDERLAND

### ARTIST'S STATEMENT

Poor Alice experienced extreme changes in life when she fell down that rabbit hole. She encountered strange beings like the "Caterpillar" who instructed her to eat the different sides of the mushroom. Her body became altered and her perceptions unreliable. She had to figure out how to survive and return to her life.

My journey from breast cancer to health has been like that. I went through extreme treatment for a few years and have been rewarded with a new life and perception. This has inspired reflection about these experiences that combines extreme methods with the most elemental materials.

These globes and small sculptures are made with paper, wool and gut. Poly plastics are used to imitate skin. They are cells, beings and creatures that were encountered in this journey through Wonderland. They are carved, burnt, and chemically altered. Like me.

The complex practice allowed passage through these healing worlds. The methods include burning, layering, and obsessive application. Each work in this series holds a secret just like cells and DNA. Objects or poems are layered within the walls and will never be revealed.

Both "Alice" and the "Caterpillar" became transformed. She eventually grew into womanhood and he became a pupa and flew away. I also passed through the rabbit hole and have emerged to find "the other side of what."

Patricia Chauncey

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