

My piece is called 'Kim, there are species that are dying.' It's a play on a pop culture moment where Kim Kardashian lost her diamond earring in the ocean, and her sister responded 'Kim, there are people that are dying.' I thought it funny of how so often people get caught up and stressed about situations that don't truly matter in the bigger picture of life. This painting is supposed to represent how these small macroinvertebrates, do in fact, matter in the bigger picture of life. They support large and healthy ecosystems. The broken jewelry pieces are representative of anthropogenic forces, being unnatural additions to the environment (and painting). The bracelet pieces also add to the title name, being that the 'kelp' resembles diamonds that people have lost while recreating in water. The background of the painting is acrylic on canvas. I made the fish by printing out small pictures of various macroinvertebrates and cutting them into their shape. Its mainly gastropods, mayflies, damselflies, bivalves, trichoptera, diptera, and hemipteran orders of macroinvertebrates mostly just due to what I could find pictures of online. I glued them down to a piece of paper and then glued that paper to the canvas. The flowers and kelp were broken bracelets I had kept in my miscellaneous arts and craft bag. I cut them up and super glued those to the canvas as well. It was super fun to get into making this and putting to use some supplies I forgot I had for awhile. I hope the message comes across well!