

Jonas Ginsburg - Telling Refugees' Stories

Community Work and Artistic Inspiration

Jonas: When I used to work at Asian Human Services, we worked with refugee populations, many from like Southeast Asia - Cambodia and Vietnam. And I was just blown away by what these folks were doing who were supposed to be our clients.

Art as Healing and Non-Verbal Processing

But I found their work just so beautiful. And that really inspired me to want to come back to art in another way. And from that experience, I guess I learned that it could be such a healing process for those suffering with different types of trauma that are often beyond the verbal spectrum. It taught me again about humility because a lot of these folks didn't have many supports, especially when they came here. But I saw their strengths flourish.

Perspective, Humility, and Elevating Overlooked Voices

So that kind of helped me see that it's not really how much you have, but it's really what you're sharing from within you. I grew up with a lot of amazing supports from my parents, thankfully. I got to learn that there's always other people without that doing these amazing things. Those are the people I really want to bring out in our storytelling because they're so often overlooked.