Due to my adoption, I experienced a form of rootlessness and loss of history, making it difficult to have a clear sense of home. At the same time, this has caused me to consciously feel at home anywhere. In China I'm a Dutch Chinese, not speaking my first language and in the Netherlands I'm a Chinese Dutch, adopted and raised in Holland. Being an orphan and in that sense rootless has ultimately developed into an opportunity and a particular way of looking at the material world and my work. In fact, I adopt myself to other places, with a heightened awareness of my surroundings. For me, I have an innate urge to create a sense of home wherever I am. This feeling arises from the necessity of reflecting on moving, losing, finding, and being found. A sense of home becomes a combination of longing for safety, balance - and acceptance between having a home and not.

The last two years my interest for Arte Povera has developed into an obsession and ultimately leading to an understanding of how its theoretical and practical framework relates to my own situation. Creating works with 'lost or discarded' materials at random places has become a form of adopting those materials and recreating history. We adopt everything in a certain way; people, places, feelings, materials, words, and even things we don't realize. But the truth is that for everything we take on, there is also an opposite. The things we adopt also, in a way, adopt us and we become emotionally attached to them. Adopting and being adopted by materials might provide a sense of mutual safety, trust, and care. The materials become foundlings (as in lost and found). Materials can't walk away from you, they can't judge you, and they can't be unfair. The found materials used in my practice are no longer abandoned or discarded objects that are somehow lost; they become meaningful and aware.

Thus, it asks the spectator to question about safety, attachment, and trust while it corresponds to the process of adoption, the fact that something is left behind and then found. Adopting and being adopted is confusing, but it's helpful for me to consciously engage with this process and reflect on my feelings about my adoption. (Unraveling these feelings helps me understand the necessity of facing the past and its complexity). For me, questioning the past helped me to understand acceptance in adoption. Through the theme of adoption and being adopted, I try to visually express the complex feelings and intimate questions that the topic of adoption evokes, by using found and discarded materials to recreate meaning and history.