We received this letter and the drawing in the summer of 2019. We met the artist and author at Raphael's Memorial Exhibition at MICA in October, 2019. We treasure both as well as the friendship. The drawing was made from a photo of Raphael as he was finishing the "Girlfriends" series at the NYAA.

## Dear Sassi Family,

I am deeply sorry for your loss. I wanted to do something so I dedicate this drawing and the frame to you.

Raphael and I studied Drawing together at NYAA. I saw him as someone who planted his feet and stood on the front line. He cared deeply for his friends and his artistic community. He shared his kindness with me and I continue to feel thankful.

Please accept this drawing. I observed his depth and bravery.

## Sincerely Kaz Adachi

