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In my work, I aim to explore our relationship with the natural world by probing the edges of identity and environment, interiority and exteriority, the tamed and the wild, and the places where the two merge. Often using the body as a conduit and a canvas, I consider the intrinsic nature of these dynamics by imprinting my skin with the landscape. It is always with feeling, intuition and energy that my work is formed.

Our earliest loves, like revenants, have a way of coming back in other forms, or to paraphrase Wordsworth, the child is mother to the woman. This perhaps explains why,

Untitled photograph from the *Imprint* performances, 2017



Untitled photograph from the *Reed Drawing on Back* performances, 2015

despite growing up in a place famed by water (Niagara Falls, Canada), I gravitate towards the land. I spent my youth playing on the fringes of well-manicured backyards, enchanted by the damp, fragrant, early-morning forest floor, the light play on the silver dollar surface of the Lunaria, the smudge of a magenta wildflower. My process draws heavily on these formative years. As an adult, my approach to art-making reflects this element of child's play. I embrace a sense of curiosity (grass imprints on my knees, dandelion stains on my arms), wonderment, and tenderness coupled with an agenda to dismantle the theory that nature is inexhaustible, self-renewing, and ever bountiful, something independent and apart from us.

Montello is a space conducive to reflection and concentration. Like a very special gift that has the profound quality of timeliness, I arrived at Montello during a crossroads in my practice. I came to the retreat with piles of books and no certain direction. I left the retreat, however, feeling inspired, having realigned myself with my practice—in some ways a new self / a renewed practice. This otherworldly place grants permission to step outside of oneself, to escape the entrapments of one's mind and roam freely in a space that is at the same time alien and familiar, other and you. My research during this time has resulted in what will be the foundation of a doctoral thesis, a book, and a film.