

## Christine Nguyen

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*Double Mountain Stars*, 2020, dirt, spray paint, salt crystals, cyanotype on watercolor paper, 108 in x 78 in x 15 in

My work is inspired by nature, science, the cosmos and its' connections with the micro and macrocosms. I collect, photograph, and research the flora and fauna of the region I inhabit. Through my inspiration of the sciences and natural world, I aim to create a comforting imaginative meditative environments in hopes it will have viewers slow down from their chaotic lives and find wonderment and curiosity in their own environment while finding harmony with oneself inspired by nature.

*Auroras of the Desert Skies - Lightness and Darkness series IV*, 2020, spray paint of rocks, dirt and sagebrush, salt crystals, dirt and cyanotype on watercolor paper, 21 in x 15 in



Leaving the main road of Montello towards the mountain, I drove through different terrains vibrant in colors and textures along the dirt road which seems to be enchanted by the Great Basin Desert. Working in the beautiful studio during the stay was a meditative process but also was charged with desert creative energy. On days the temperature rose, I learned from the desert creatures that I should also conserve my energy and slow down. I read about the Great Basin Desert, Robert Smithson's Spiral Jetty, and Sacred Sage. I also read about how sagebrush talks to other plants. They release organic compounds when in danger and the other sagebrush and plants around them listen. I also talked to them and the night sky often. I was amazed by the sounds of quiet, wind, and occasional bird and howling of coyotes. Fascinated by the sky and the weather patterns, I must have taken a million photographs while I was there. The Comet Neowise was passing and saw but a blur in the night sky below the Big Dipper above the Nine Mile Mountain. It was as if a ghost was present but I just couldn't focus on it. I was able to capture it with my camera against the night sky that was so glorious in presence of a choir of celestial beings. This place and experience will forever be in my practice where I was alone with my thoughts, nature, the cosmos and my studio dog Neptune.

*Center of the Universe*, 2020, salt crystals, archival pigment print on Moab Entrada Rag, 42 in x 104 in

