

green ART

Trees,
Leaves,
and Roots

€ Ashley Rooney with Margery Goldberg



Peter Kephart

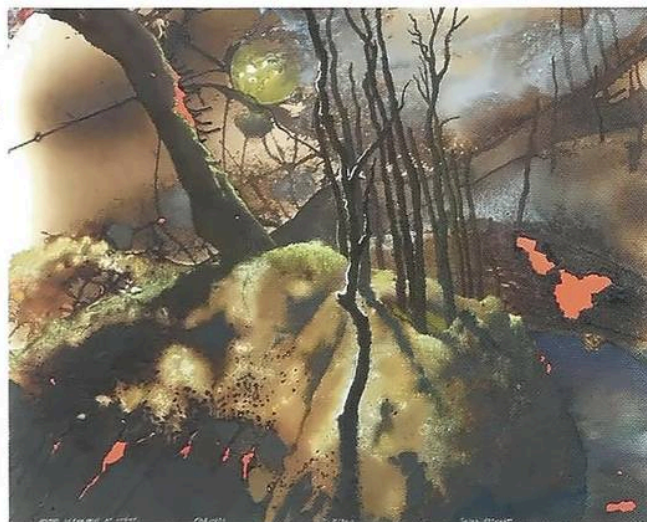
Levels, West Virginia

Fire-painting is a technique through which I paint on paper using the basic physical elements of fire, water, earth, and wind. The images are literally baked onto the substrate. Beginning only with fire (an accelerant) and water (a resist), my range of materials has grown to include starch, liquid pigments, watercolors, gunpowder, inks, dirt and gravel, charcoal, and pastel. I am endlessly discovering new possibilities as this proprietary technique continually evolves. By concertedly exploring the creative potential and universal appeal of fire, I have opened up an innovative new realm of artistic expression. This particular technique allows me to explore pictorial possibilities I had never imagined, and the process alone is completely captivating. Each finished piece is completely unique and radiates with an internal glow.

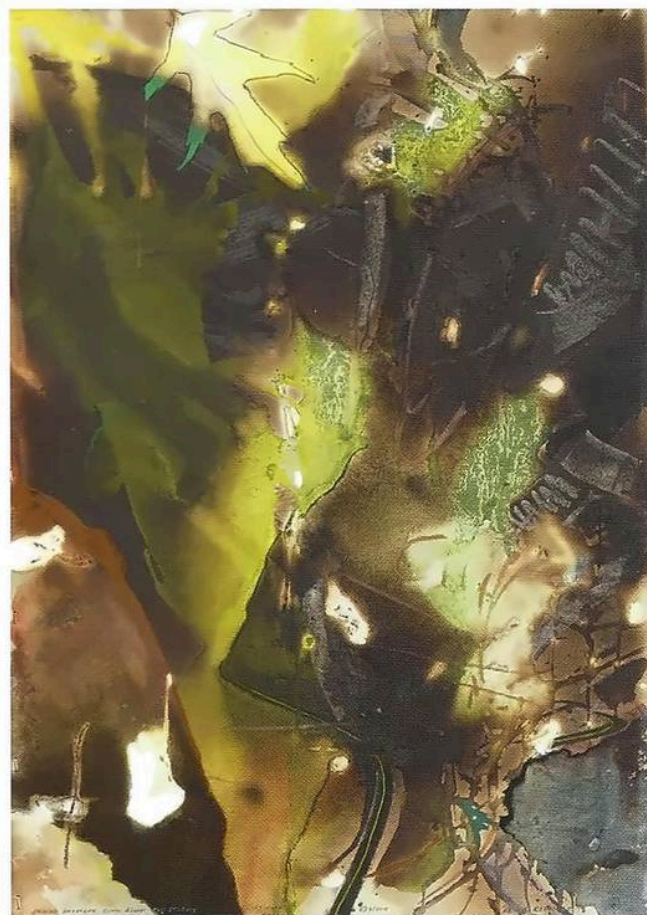
As I am primarily a landscape artist, I constantly glean inspiration from my surroundings, in which I find immense beauty, as well as continual degradation. I am further impressed by nature's ability to regenerate, which is found at the core of each of my fire-paintings. My art is the exploration of the phenomena of the heated landscape, using the elements that compose the physical world along with materials that may contribute to its decay. The images I create are abstract *and* representational, familiar *and* otherworldly. This contrast represents my belief that even though the world may survive significant transformation, it might do so in a way that is unrecognizable yet distinctly beautiful.



Courtesy of Daniel Cima © 2004.



Hotter in the Hills at Night. Bonfire, water (color), potassium nitrate, pastel, ink on cotton rag paper. 20" x 28".



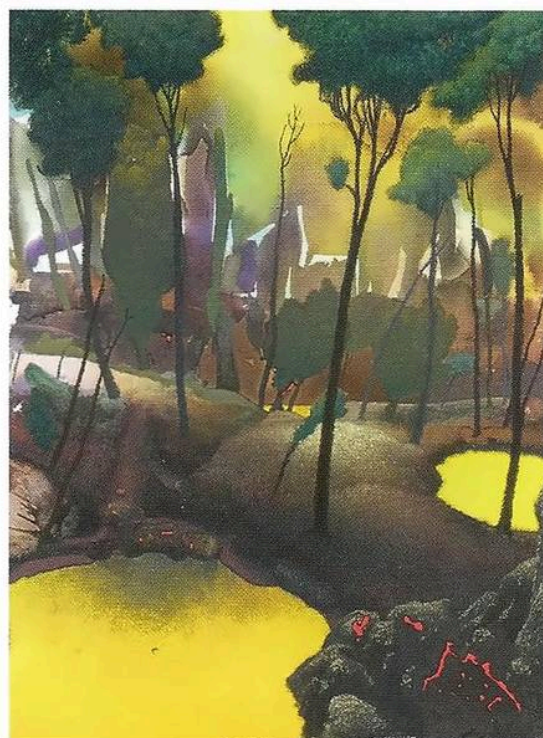
Driving Daybreak Down Along a Stream. Bonfire, water (color), pastel on cotton rag paper. 30" x 22".

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Levels, West Virginia



Fire Forest. Bonfire, water, potassium nitrate, gunpowder, pastel on cotton rag paper. 19" x 40".

Hot Sulphur Springs. Bonfire, water (color), potassium nitrate, pastel, ink on cotton rag paper. 30" x 22".



Land of the Rising Sun. Bonfire, water (color), pastel on cotton rag paper. 30" x 40".