



## **KATIE KALKSTEIN** | Artist Statement

This series continues to explore ideas of the interconnection of the health of the body and the environment. This work focuses on the element of air, specifically as breath.

Many ideas for this work came from the intersections of climate change, power, and systemic injustice impacting this basic need to sustain life. The earth breathes in relation to the body, and it is even more apparent of the need to work toward a world where all can thrive. This series represents our current systems of connection and disconnection with the earth, the failed language to stop environmental damage, and the resilience of nature to adapt to our interventions.

As the images float, the words become ephemeral like breath, as do memories of the land and each other. Word poems are created and recreated by the air and human presence in a shared connection to inspire a new language.