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My plan of work at Montello was to explore the aesthetic, spiritual and transcendental importance of light in the landscape, specific to the northern Nevada Great Basin, using video to interpret of the natural environment. This project evolved into a series of visual mediations also exploring the important variables of time and perspective. First, I worked on several time-lapse studies of movement in the celestial sphere over the course of my many nights at Montello. The absence of light pollution and the crescent phases of the moon afforded me an exceptional view of the night sky. I also chose a non-human perspective from which to shoot the daylight landscape, from altitudes only reachable from a drone. I successfully



explored a variety of stunning geological formations from a point of view, before the advent of this cinematic technology, only seen by birds.

When not out exploring this “sense of place” that is the environment near Twentyone Mile Draw, my residency at Montello allowed me an extended period of time to focus on exploration of a place that I have already had the privilege of filming for several years of my career. I spent nearly 100 hours at my computer, editing video for a new documentary about the island community of Berneray in the Outer Hebrides of Scotland, where I had made a one hour 16mm film 40 years before. The peace and solitude at Montello was instrumental in allowing me to dive deep into the visual material for this new project.

Through my experience at Montello, having the time and space to be immersed in the wondrous natural landscapes of northern Nevada, I developed an emotional and aesthetic connection to this place. I hope to have the privilege to return again someday to revisit the majesty of Montello.