

## Lee Arnold

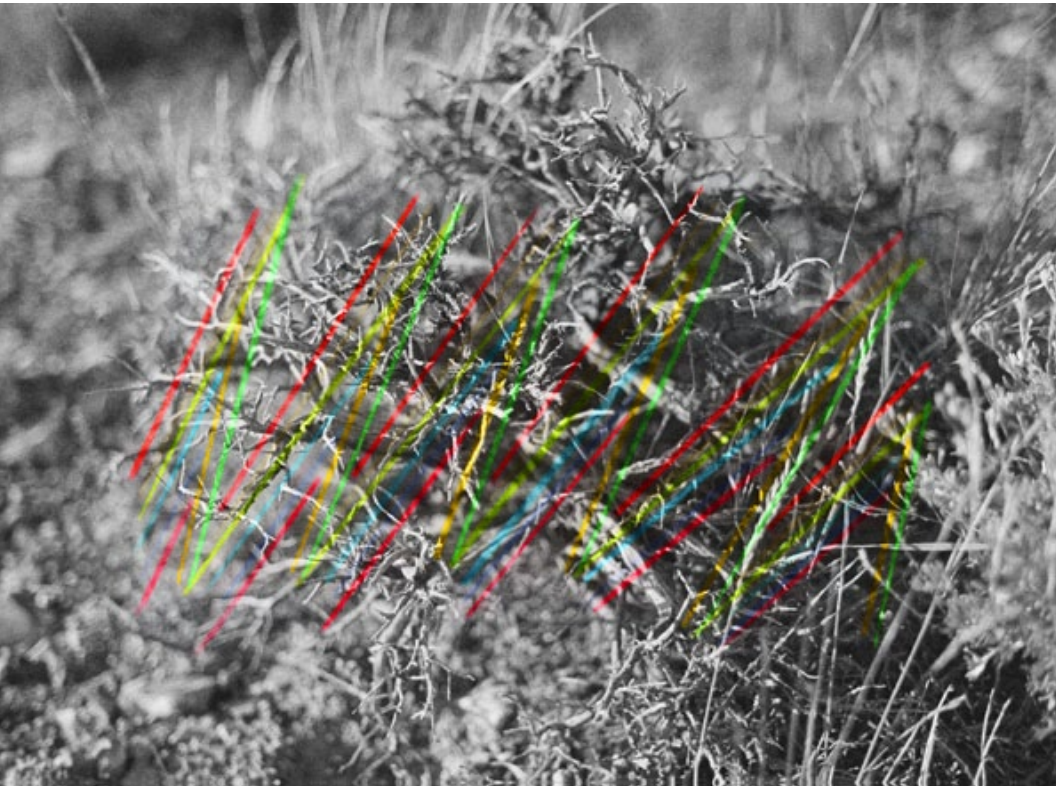
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Montello was a revelation. During my residency I hiked, took photographs, read books about environmental history, listened intently to bird songs, investigated local flora, and filled sketchbooks with drawings inspired by the subtle color and geometry of the desert. Before leaving for Nevada I was a bit apprehensive of the prospect of two weeks isolated in a foreign landscape. A fortnight alone had it's

*Interference (1), 2016*



*Interference (2), 2016*

challenging moments, but by the end of my time there I found that my perception of space, light, sound, texture and color had shifted.

My practice is inspired by the natural world and how we perceive it. Much like a scientist or philosopher in search of a theory that will support their observations, I make works that act like symbolic diagrams that attempt to interpret the structure of visual experience. This was my first extended stay in the desert of the Great Basin, and my experience there continues to inform the direction of my work. Recently I have become interested in making works in which the depiction of time is intentionally ambiguous. In my daily life, with responsibilities and distractions coming from all directions, it can be challenging to just let my mind wander. At Montello I had the opportunity to spend days staring at the horizon, quietly watching a feeling of boredom shift towards a sense of wonder. I am thankful for having been given that time.