

# Vasari 21

## Reinventing Landscape: Part One

by Ann Landi | Apr 17, 2017

<https://vasari21.com/reinventing-landscape-part-one/>



Lanny DeVuono, *Terraforming #6*, 2017, graphite Gesso, wax, and gouache, 10 x 10 in.



Lanny DeVuono, *Small Terraforming #8*, 2017, graphite gesso, wax, and gouache, 10 x 10 in.

### Lanny DeVuono

I don't see myself as continuing the landscape tradition in the conventional sense, but I'm in dialogue with historical landscapes and have long used the landscape as a visual metaphor for human desires and aspirations.

What I've done for years is to use landscape to play with ideas of ownership. "OuterSpace," my current body of work, uses nature imagery to raise questions about our interest in extraterrestrial travel and exploration, and to question the whole notion of colonial expansion.

With these drawings, I imagine an outer space like Theodorus DeBry must have imagined the Americas. Without having travelled to this continent himself, DeBry's work and the work of his studio, were less incorrect than riddled with 16<sup>th</sup>-century European desires.

I conjure up the terrains of other planets with images of what is familiar, using pictures and ideas from our present-day earth and specifically the Southwestern US where I live, but last year I also travelled to the Sahara to research the barren beauty of sandy deserts.