

The Volcano Cycle:
Ring of Fire between Heaven and Earth 2013 (negatives 2010-11)

The Volcano Cycle explores deep time with photographic images of volcanoes from Indonesia's Ring of Fire that evoke earth, climate change and human co-evolution. They are printed digitally on prepared aluminum plates with archival pigment inks and backed with copper, either in frames or on panels.

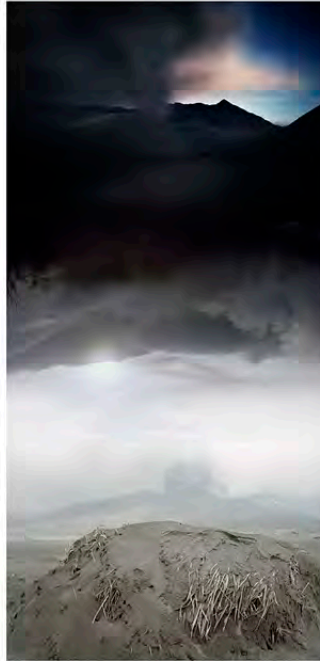
Somewhere between our own culturally specific creation myths and the Big Bang, our planet was born. Out of nothing into something; out of darkness, a first breath - from tightly compacted space to infinite spaciousness. After ions of fire and ice and then melt, our Eden emerged. Without the earliest volcanic activity, carbon would not have been released to produce the first beneficial global warming to melt the glaciers to end the earliest Ice Age (Snowball Earth). Oxygen would not have been released to eventually breathe us into being. 74,000 years ago, Mt. Toba erupted on Sumatra creating an extreme volcanic winter that extincted, if not all of us, then a large portion of life. It is possible that some of us, who were lucky enough to have made tools, were able to crawl out of the deep ash, to keep going. Thus Mt. Toba is referred to by scientists as the "Weak Garden of Eden", because at least at Mt. Toba life had to begin anew.

The Volcano Cycle is part of the trilogy, ***Heaven Turned on Its Side*** (2009-) that looks at ecological processes across time that either reinforce or destroy the notion of Eden. It focuses on poetic intersections of nature and culture in relation to ecological and/or social imbalance. "***Heaven Turned on Its Side*** is not presented as a timeline but as a natural cycle of life, death and rebirth where human beings and nature are deeply connected and exist in true symbiosis."*

*PATRICIA LEVASSEUR DE LA MOTTE, France/Singapore, Independent Curator



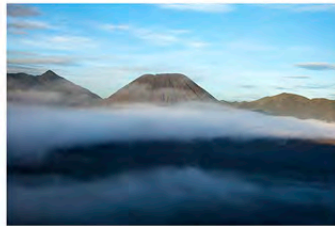
left to right: *Calm Before the Storm*, *Mt. Merapi Under Full Moon*, near *Jogyakarta, Java*, April 28, 2010, four months before the eruption 18.5x27", *Mt. Toba Volcanic Ash*, 74,000 yrs old, found in *Malaysia*, May 2010: 74,000 years ago, this huge blast created a volcanic winter that some scientists think extinguished most forms of life, creating a "Weak Garden of Eden" 18.5x27", *Mt. Bromo at Night* 18.5x27"



left to right: *Mt. Bromo Erupting from Above 18.5x27"*, *Between Heaven and Earth, Mt. Bromo Volcano , E. Java 55.5x27"*, *Re-emerging Grass, Mt. Bromo Volcano, E. Java 18.5x27"*



left to right: ***Mt. Bromo Sunrise*** 18.5x27", ***Crater Lake, Kawah Volcano*** , Sulfuric and Hydrochloric Acid,E. Java 18.5x27", ***Lelani at Dawn***, Mt. Bromo 18.5x23.5"



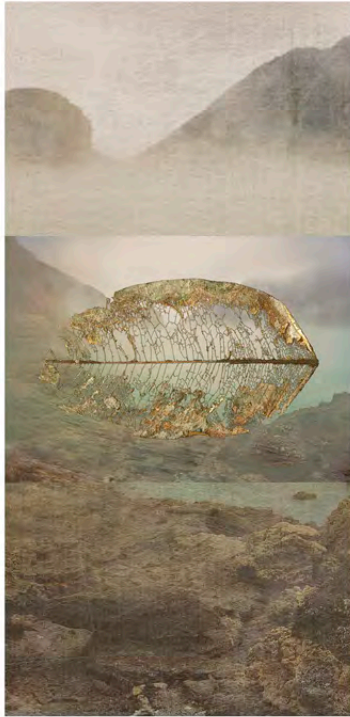
Mt. Bromo Volcano Early Morning Quartet 4 prints each 14.5x 22"



Pyroclastic Remains after Mt. Merapi 2011 Grand Eruption, 50 1/2" x 59"



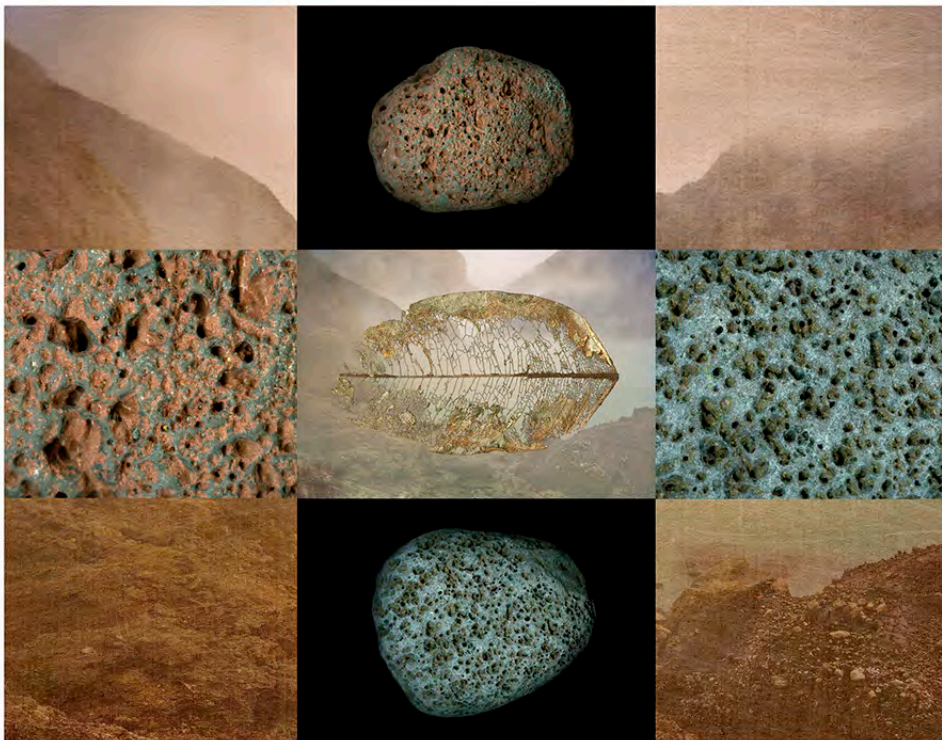
left to right: *Mt. Bromo from Above encircled 18.5x27"*, *Mt. Bromo at Night circle reversed, 18.5 x 25.75"*, *Crater Lake, Kawah Ijen in a circle 18.5x27"*



left to right: *Volcanic Leaf Suspended* 55.5x27", *Lelani at Mt. Bromo* 18.5x27.75"



Pyroclastic Dance, Mt. Merapi, 2010 each 27x18.5"



Ring of Fire, 43" x 58"