

About: **Fire Work 1977-84**

Ultimately, I produced twelve series using fire/destruction as a creative force.

- Smoke Drawing
- Smoke Imagery
- Cabala
- Transformations: Mica, Cloth, Lint
- Torah Scroll
- Sedona
- Green Sand Beach/Black Sand Beach
- Monument Valley/Sun Valley
- Israel Revisited: Ten Sites
- Israel Revisited: Illuminated Manuscript
- Israel Revisited: Buried Scroll
- Arizona Fault Line

Even my most recent *Broken World* series (2020-22) contains aspects allusive to fire though without any application of fire to the finished product.

While the original *Fire Works* were ashen, devoid of most color, I slowly began adding color back to the work as the series progressed.

In 1979, I was named artist in residence at the Volcano Arts Center in Hawaii's Volcanoes National Park on the Big Island. Hawaii possesses three beaches known as green sand beach (Papakōlea), black sand beach (Punaluu) and red sand beach (Kaihalulu). I could not resist the idea of incorporating these colored sands into my paintings, but hiking down to the beach carrying art materials was a hot and tiring excursion. The location was isolated, so I decided to cool off by removing all my clothes and paint while nude. After some time, I was disturbed by a distant clicking

sound I could not identify; looking around to the highway above me, I quickly noted a stopped bus carrying Japanese tourists all of whom had exited and seemed to be taking pictures of me. Everyone's fifteen minutes of fame is not always quite what we may imagine.