

# DANIELA NAOMI MOLNAR

[DANIELAMOLNAR.COM](http://DANIELAMOLNAR.COM)    INSTAGRAM: [@DANIELA\\_NAOMI\\_MOLNAR](https://www.instagram.com/DANIELA_NAOMI_MOLNAR)

## Artist Statement (Prose form):

Working with color, water, language, and place, my art explores memory—planetary, cultural, familial, and bodily. These memories are alive in the present and have the potential to shape our future. My work creates vessels in which memories transform: books, poems, essays, films, paintings, sculptures, exhibits, classes, and installations.

To access these memories, I make pigments from stones, flowers, roots, bones, glacial melt, and rainwater, each sourced from specific biomes. These pigments create palettes of place that celebrate the earth's imagination and resilience. Working with the earth this way has taught me that memories can permeate across vast timescales and disparate places, species, and generations.

Poems and essays arise alongside the pigments and paintings, exploring the same questions and ideas. The two practices overlap and inform each other. I understand writing and pigment-making as parallel practices. Both rely on careful attention and transformation, a balance of discipline and dissipation. And both are ways to access and transform memories—my own, those of my family, and those of the earth.

My current work exploring memory began with a lifelong love of wild places. I sought out places where I felt I could be in conversation with the other-than-human, eventually venturing far from the city parks of my youth into remote wildernesses worldwide. Time in these places allowed me to unravel some of the knots I'd inherited. I learned to slow down and be quiet and attentive. I found that, with practice, I was sometimes able to translate my experiences into poems and paintings, colors and words. Doing so felt freeing and meaningful. I stuck with it. To this day, I understand my primary medium as place.

Though I engage with challenging themes, I see each of my creations as a resilient ecosystem offering sensory immersion, beauty, and the possibility of exchange.

## Artist Statement (Poem form):

### The World is Full

Our home is filled with forest light, deep-lit and limber,  
impelled by a scent trail older than names.  
It's obdurate, a largest mind. Inside, I slow and layer  
cellulose with bone, iron, glass, leaving a molten, bloody ochre  
to shoulder through the core.  
I add flowers from my mother's field  
where she's made a garden  
and a family grave.  
I'm painting and my work is to bury, change, contain,  
to make a home for what remains  
orphaned from time and place. Indelible,  
the layers convey, make touch.