Big Mountain Sacred Land

11.5” x 14”
Bristol Board India Ink

$5,000.00

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This piece was inspired by my many years living among traditional Dine's elders, herding sheep, chopping wood, hauling water, carding wool, working in the cornfields, cooking, cleaning in pristine lands of northeastern Arizona where my skills off the grid in the mountains of Washington proved very useful. The ancient cedar/juniper trees provide food from the berries, beads from the seeds, tea from the greenery and firewood form the dead wood. The greenery is also used to burn in prayers. Some of these trees grow quite large and are a wonder to behold.

The hogan is made of logs and mud built in a ceremonial manner. The hogan where i spent most of my time was over 100 years old with a sawed off metal barrel configured into a stove for heat and cooking. The sheep are highly valued as they provide wool for the weaving of beautiful rugs and food for sustenance. The baby lambs born in winter are especially cared for in their own tiny hogans built within the sheep corral.

The immense detail in this piece took hundreds of hours to complete. Such work is very therapeutic and calming for me when i am free enough to engage with little interruption.

Swaneagle Fitzgerald