



Egg and Nest I
11" x 14", Collagraph & Collage with Copper Leaf, 2012

NESTS and EGGS

Rereading *Silent Spring* this year, I thought about all that humans do to interfere with natural cycles, down to the cellular structure of eagles' eggs, weakened by the pesticide DDT that Rachel Carson warned against. I created nests and eggs as collagraph prints. This led me to building an actual nest with dead branches, and making clay eggs, glazed and fired outdoors using a Raku method.

Crazing results from the shock of rapid cooling of the open clay body evoking the stress of thinned shell walls in nature. As part of this exhibit, students helped me build an outdoor installation of a nest from recycled dead wood, as eagles do. It contains two large Raku eggs, one whole, the other cracked open.

Smaller eagle size eggs are installed in the gallery and contain messages about the plight of eagles over the last 50 years and their rebound following the intense debate Rachel Carson's book engendered and the banning of DDT in 1974. These eggs are hidden on campus during the course of the show. Students hunt for and return them, logging in their reflections on the messages they find inside. I designed this as an interactive process to emphasize our agency in both destroying—and halting the destruction— of creatures and habitats.

KCC



Ascendant
14" x 7", Collagraph, 2012