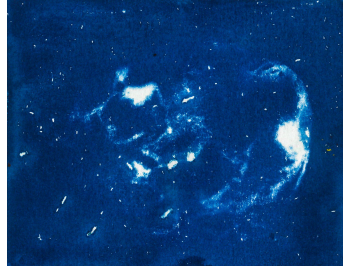


PORTFOLIO

Birthstone Guardians

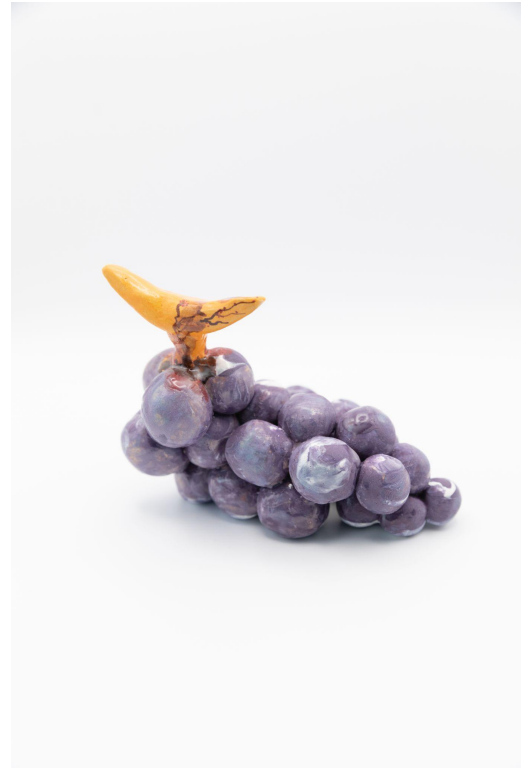
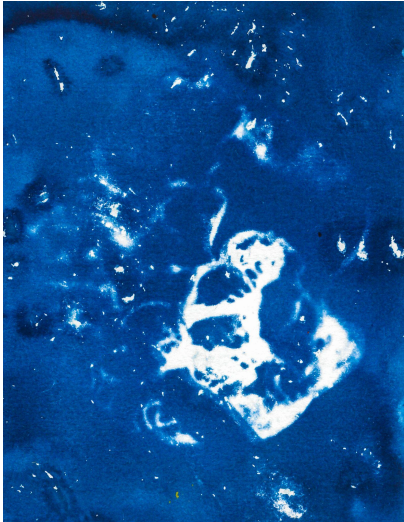
KOLA HUANG



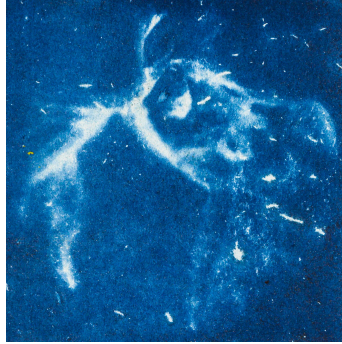
January: Garnet



February: Amethyst

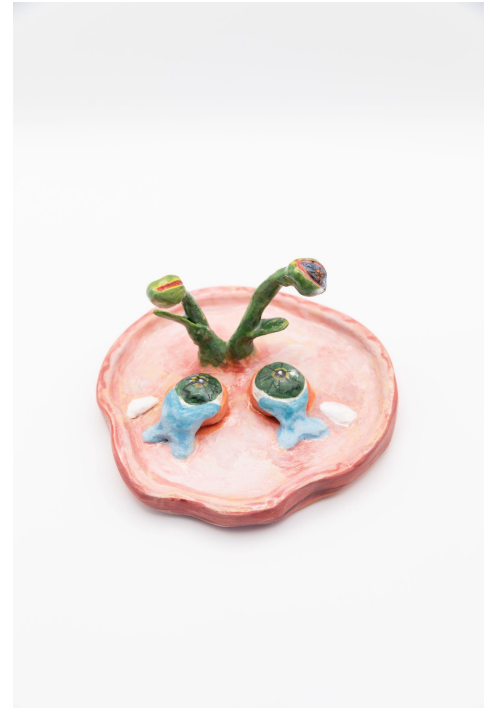
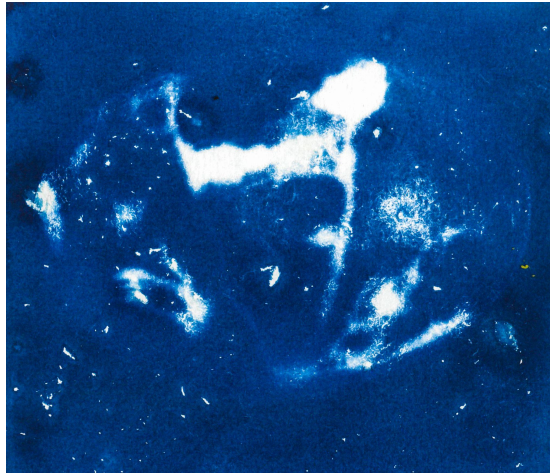


March: Aquamarine

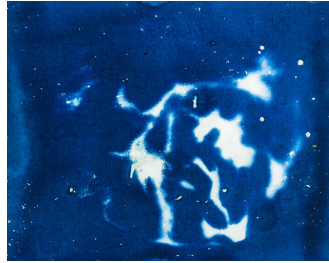


April: Diamond



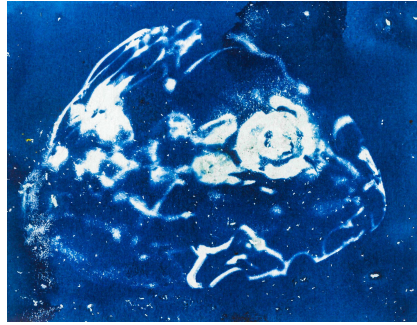


May: Emerald

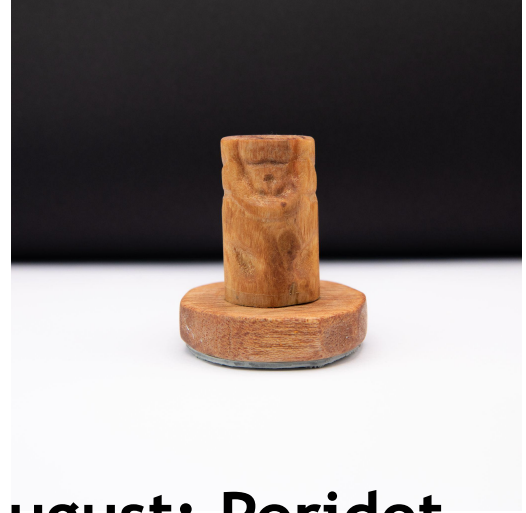
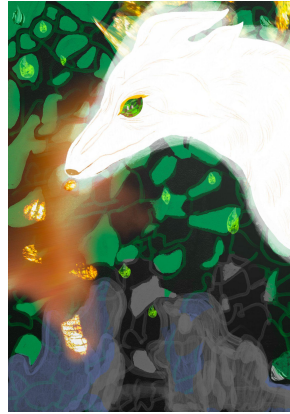


June: Pearl

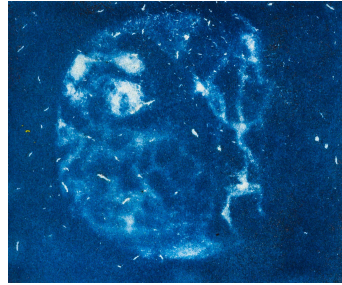


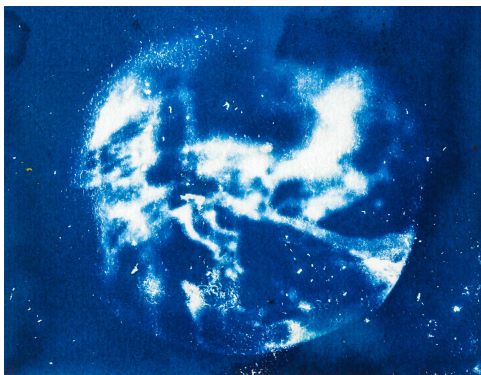
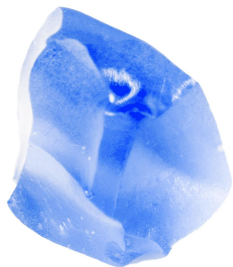


July: Ruby



August: Peridot

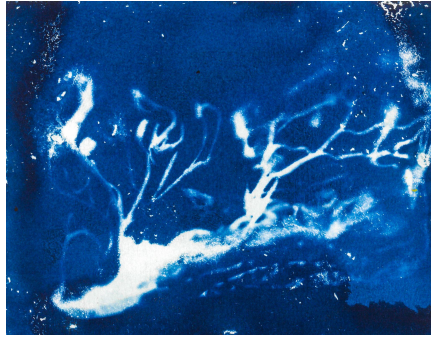




September: Sapphire



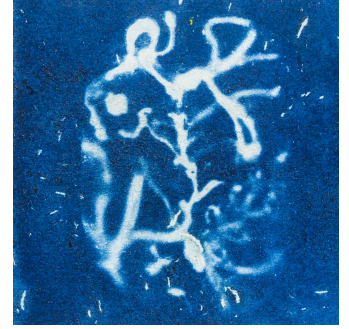
October: Opal



November: Topaz



December: Turquoise



◆ January: Garnet - Noah's Ark & Friendship

Color: Deep red (also orange, green, purple, etc.)

Meaning: Friendship, loyalty, strength, protection

In Persian and Middle Eastern cultures, garnet symbolizes friendship and loyalty. In ancient Persia, people gifted garnets to friends, showing that hearts stay connected no matter the distance.

In Jewish legend, Noah used a glowing red stone—believed to be a garnet—to light the ark during the dark flood.

◆ February: Amethyst - Sleeping Grape Maiden

Color: Purple (light to deep)

Meaning: Wisdom, calmness, inner strength, self-discipline, clarity

In Greek mythology, the wine god Dionysus got angry and wanted to punish the next person he saw. A pure girl named Amethystos was on her way to worship Artemis. To protect her, Artemis turned her into white crystal. Dionysus regretted his actions and poured wine over the crystal, staining it purple. That's how Amethyst was born.

◆ **March: Aquamarine - Guardian of the Sea**

Color: Pale blue to sea blue

Meaning: Courage, calmness, hope, purification, protection for sailors
Ancient Greeks and Romans believed aquamarine belonged to Poseidon or Neptune. It was said to be a treasure of mermaids and was called "Mermaid's Stone." Sailors carried it as a lucky charm to calm storms and keep them safe at sea.

◆ **April: Diamond - Indra's Indestructible Weapon (Vajra)**

Color: Clear (also colored diamonds)

Meaning: Purity, eternal love, strength, success, loyalty
In Sanskrit, diamond is "Vajra," meaning lightning and indestructibility. In Indian mythology, the god Indra used Vajra to defeat evil. It was said to be made of diamonds and could destroy anything evil.

◆ **May: Emerald - Venus' Angel Eyes**

Color: Light to deep green

Meaning: Wisdom, vitality, love, rebirth, truth, healing

Emeralds were linked to the goddess Venus. People believed the gem protected lovers from betrayal—it glowed brightly when love was true and turned dull when it wasn't. Emeralds were also believed to have healing powers and helped with eyesight.

Emeralds often have natural black lines inside, called “jardin.” These lines make the gem look like a mythic eye—this is why it's nicknamed “Angel's Eye.”

◆ **June: Pearl - The Dragon King's Pearl**

Color: White, pink, gold, black

Meaning: Purity, elegance, wealth, luck

Ancient people were fascinated by pearls. In the Middle East, they were thought to be tears from heaven. In China, people believed pearls came from the dragon's head. Columbus thought they were made from morning dew.

◆ July: Ruby - The Warrior's Immortal Heart

Color: Red (pink to deep red)

Meaning: Vitality, eternity, beauty, courage, power, wealth

- Ancient cultures saw ruby as the blood of life. The best rubies—“pigeon blood red”—come from Burma (Myanmar). Burmese warriors believed rubies made them undefeatable. But wearing them wasn't enough—they embedded the stones into their skin to become truly protected.

◆ August: Peridot - The Tears of the Volcano Goddess Pele

Color: Yellow-green, olive green

Meaning: Happiness, luck, healing, protection

- In Hawaii, Peridot is believed to be tears. Many green crystals found on the local beaches are said to be sacred gems left behind by Pele's weeping. In addition to being known as the goddess of volcanoes, Pele is also famed for her power and passion. She is said to possess the ability to shapeshift, appearing as a white dog, an old woman, or a beautiful young woman.

◆ **September: Sapphire - Crown of the Elves**

Color: Blue (also pink, yellow, green)

Meaning: Loyalty, wisdom, spiritual clarity, truth

- Sapphire has long symbolized royalty, loyalty, and soul. Ancient Persians believed the sky was blue because Earth rested on a giant sapphire.
- In Celtic myths, sapphire was seen as a magical fragment dropped by elves, acting as a gateway between the human world and the Otherworld.

◆ **October: Opal - Zeus' Tears Under Lightning**

Color: Iridescent (Opal), pink (Tourmaline)

Meaning: Creativity, inspiration, love, hope

- Arabs believed opals were formed by lightning. Greeks believed they were Zeus' tears of joy. Romans praised opal as a gem that held all the colors of other stones and considered it a sign of status and luck.

◆ November: Topaz - Apollo's Courage

Color: Yellow, orange, gold (also blue)

Meaning: Warmth, courage, passion, protection, strength, wisdom

- The name Topaz may come from the Sanskrit "Tapas" (fire) or the island "Topazios" in the Red Sea. It is linked to Apollo, god of healing and light, and believed to give warriors strength in battle.

◆ December: Turquoise - Rebirth of the Goddess Hathor

Color: Blue, teal, purple

Meaning: Luck, protection, spiritual growth, safe travels

- Ancient Egyptians treasured turquoise. It was sacred to the goddess Hathor, who symbolized love, beauty, and rebirth. They believed turquoise had life-giving power, and buried their rulers with turquoise treasures.
- Hathor is often shown as a beautiful woman with cow horns and a sun disk, showing her connection to the sun god Ra.