I have found this body to be the great illusion...I aim to reach beyond this skin, to find what it has hidden. This body was born, made to exist, but what before that? And I am here, but what after? Vision is narrowed by belief in the body...The consequence of which is the assertion of the individual, endlessly separating itself from all other things; defining itself by relation. “I” is something different from the world, something which has skin, and edges—something individual...This experience of the world, in the end, is that of receiving our own reflection. The shape and character of the universe is entirely our own. There is no world aside from the self, and no self that is separate from its projections. Either of these has no source of origination, because each depends on the other to substantiate itself.

~Damon Sauer

My work explores a reciprocal relationship: I find the human body to be a place with complex inner landscapes, and I see our shared environments as aspects of one living, breathing superorganism. Developing in the uterus, we experience the human body as a world unto itself. We share another’s resources, breathe her air. Upon birth, our connections to other human beings and to our shared environments become more obscure. Though we freely move about, designing our own lives, we still occupy a shared space—we breathe the air that others breathe, we drink the water that once constituted other bodies. After we reach maturity, our cells continue to be reworked within a cycling of matter that takes billion year old carbon formed at the center of a star and recyclces it to make us each materially new people.

Julie Anand~