



BRUCE MUSEUM  
1 Museum Drive • Greenwich, CT

# NAGATANI SUITE: CREATING PHOTO COLLAGES

Patrick Nagatani (1945-2017) was an artist, film maker, and writer. The Bruce Museum is pleased to be exhibiting his “Nuclear Enchantment” series in the upcoming exhibition, *Chain Reaction: The Photography of Patrick Nagatani*, June 27 to October 31, 2021. Throughout his career Nagatani (who once worked in Hollywood) used his knowledge of set design to create unique photo collages. He would photograph real people and places, print out these images, and then rephotograph them in combination with artificial settings and inserted imagery. Nagatani’s images create a compelling world in which he was able to explore his feelings about nuclear proliferation and the American war machine.



TRINITITE, GROUND ZERO, TRINITY SITE, NEW MEXICO. FROM “NUCLEAR ENCHANTMENT.”  
1988-89 & 1993, CHROMOGENIC PRINT (ILFOCOLOR DELUXE), 20 x 24 INCHES  
SIGNED, TITLED, DATED AND NUMBERED A/P IN INK IN THE MARGIN  
BRUCE MUSEUM COLLECTION. GIFT OF PETER AND BARBARA NORIS  
PHOTO BY PAUL MUTINO © PATRICK NAGATANI ESTATE



TRINITY SITE, JORNADA DEL MUERTO, NEW MEXICO. FROM “NUCLEAR ENCHANTMENT.”  
1989 & 1993, CHROMOGENIC PRINT (ILFOCOLOR DELUXE), 20 x 24 INCHES.  
SIGNED, TITLED, DATED, AND NUMBERED 1/12 IN INK IN THE MARGIN  
BRUCE MUSEUM COLLECTION. GIFT OF PETER AND BARBARA NORIS  
PHOTO BY PAUL MUTINO © PATRICK NAGATANI ESTATE

## YOU TRY IT!

Creating photo collages using found imagery is accessible for anyone with a pair of scissors, some old magazines, a sturdy piece of paper, and glue. Before you start working you will want to collect source materials. You will need more images than you can use when making your collage, so that you have lots of options. Old postcards and birthday cards, magazines, coupon circulars and catalogues, even your own camera roll, are good image sources. Search through your camera roll and print out the images you want to use, making multiple copies so you will be able to cut them up and combine them. Nagatani often used photos of himself, his friends, and family in his artwork, why not do the same? When you are done with your collage you can photograph it and print it out -- just like Nagatani did!



### Common Core State Standard:

Standard: ELA: Literacy: R.L. 3.3-5.3, R.L. 3.7-6.7, R.L. 3.1-5.1, R.L. 6.4-8.4, R.H. 6-8.4, R.H. 6-8.7

### National Core Arts Anchor Standards

Anchor Standard #1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.  
Anchor Standard #2. Organize and Develop artistic ideas and work.  
Anchor Standard #3. Refine and complete artistic work.

**GET  
Creative!**