

Utah State University

DigitalCommons@USU

---

All Graduate Plan B and other Reports

Graduate Studies

---

5-2013

## My Foot is a Desert

Abraham J. McCowan  
*Utah State University*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/gradreports>



Part of the Arts and Humanities Commons

---

### Recommended Citation

McCowan, Abraham J., "My Foot is a Desert" (2013). *All Graduate Plan B and other Reports*. 265.  
<https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/gradreports/265>

This Creative Project is brought to you for free and open access by the Graduate Studies at DigitalCommons@USU. It has been accepted for inclusion in All Graduate Plan B and other Reports by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@USU. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@usu.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@usu.edu).



5-1-2013

# My Foot is a Desert

Abraham J. McCowan  
*Utah State University*

---

## Recommended Citation

McCowan, Abraham J., "My Foot is a Desert" (2013). *All Graduate Plan B and other Reports*. Paper 265.  
<http://digitalcommons.usu.edu/gradreports/265>

This Creative Project is brought to you for free and open access by the Graduate Studies, School of at DigitalCommons@USU. It has been accepted for inclusion in All Graduate Plan B and other Reports by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@USU. For more information, please contact [becky.thoms@usu.edu](mailto:becky.thoms@usu.edu).



Abraham McCowan  
Artist Statement  
2013

***My Foot is a Desert***

My work is inspired by experiences I have had while hiking in the deserts of the American West and northern Mexico. While these desert regions are sparse, they are surprisingly rich in biodiversity. This arid abundance creates beautifully stark wilderness. It is the wild plant forms in these landscapes – the chalky yet silky saguaro rib, the fine fibers that feather and spin off a yucca blade – that inspire this body of prints. These are plants that I touch, taste, admire, and am fascinated with.

I have used the medium of woodcut to capture the essence of these wild forms. This process allows me the flexibility to print large areas of color and also the ability to carve down to the minutest details. Thus, while the scale of the prints is imposing, like the desert itself, the images attempt to capture the subtle unexpected elements to draw the viewer in. Exploration and experimentation with various mark making is at the core of this work. Large and minute, simple and complex –these core desert elements are themes that fuel my creativity.