

# INTERDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL OF DECADENCE STUDIES

## Volume 4, Issue 1

### **Summer 2021**

Holy Ground

Sam Branton

**ISSN:** 2515-0073

Date of Acceptance: 1 June 2021

Date of Publication: 21 June 2021

Citation: Sam Branton, 'Holy Ground', Volupté: Interdisciplinary Journal of Decadence

Studies, 4.1 (2021), 181–84.

**DOI:** 10.25602/GOLD.v.v4i1.1532.g1645

volupte.gold.ac.uk



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.

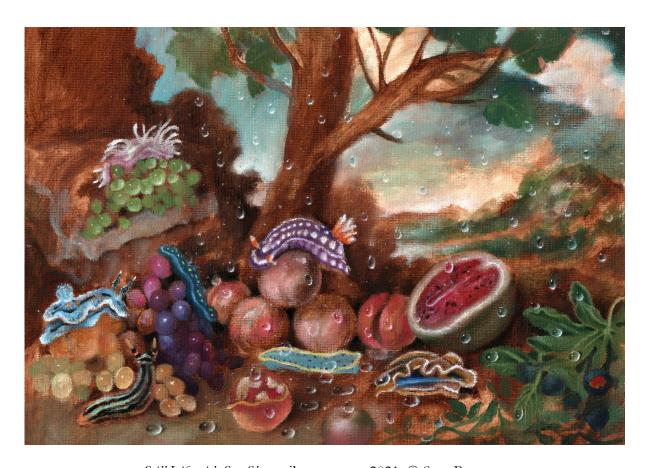


## Holy Ground

#### Sam Branton

Sam Branton's paintings are imagined stories that emerge from a decadent mind. His images feature unlikely correspondences between flora, fauna, and decorative objects. The paintings have a sickly and fleshy quality reminiscent of Les Fleurs du mal. Creatures frolic in a fantastical world, and, as for Baudelaire, nature serves as an imaginative stage: rarely benevolent, sometimes threatening. Branton's subjects appear to grapple with their place within an unnatural landscape, negotiating the surreal surroundings in which they find themselves.

Alice Condé and Jessica Gossling, June 2021



Still Life with Sea Slugs, oil on canvas, 2021, © Sam Branton



Monkey with Large Vessel, oil on canvas, 2019, © Sam Branton



Monkey, Pufferfish, and Peaches, oil on canvas, 2019, © Sam Branton



Swan, Squid, and Lemons, oil on canvas, 2019, © Sam Branton



Bird with Miniature, oil on canvas, 2020, © Sam Branton



Hound with Tapestry, oil on canvas, 2020, © Sam Branton