

*The Distance Of It All*

Digital process

20" x 20" roughly

July 2021

Response to The Baron in the Trees by Italo Calvino

*"He was solitary but didn't shun the people."*

In the beginning of it all we remained neighborly at a distance.

*"...this was now his natural state, as if his eye embraced a horizon so wide that it included everything."*

In the beginning of it all I was paying attention to the statistics. Our whole planet is affected.

*If one chooses to not work with others, let it be a "warning of what a man who separates his fate from that of others can become..."*

In the middle of it all we remained neighborly. The ones who kept silent didn't get the help they needed.

*It's good to understand that "associations make man stronger and bring out the individual's best talents, and offer the joy rarely felt if we remain on our own."*

In the middle of it all we embraced togetherness, trying our best to remain distant.

*"...those who wish to look carefully at the earth should stay at the necessary distance."*

In the height of it all I was paying attention to the statistics. Our whole planet is hurting.

*"There can't be love unless one is oneself with all one's strength."*

In the height of it all we remained neighborly with no concern of distance.

*Cosimo said, "I've lived for many years for ideals that I wouldn't know how to explain even to myself - but one choice I did make for the better was to live in the trees."*

In the wholeness of it all I've learned the importance of harmony, unity, and comfort.

In the wholeness of it all,

Distance is relative to time and knowledge.