

# Chamisa: A Journal of Literary, Performance, and Visual Arts of the Greater Southwest

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Volume 1  
Issue 1 *Identity, Culture, and Art in New Mexico*

Article 7

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2021

## Cosmic Desert Art

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### Recommended Citation

Graham De La Rosa, Mike. "Cosmic Desert Art." *Chamisa: A Journal of Literary, Performance, and Visual Arts of the Greater Southwest* 1, 1 (2021). <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/chamisa/vol1/iss1/7>

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Cosmic Desert Art

by Mike Graham De La Rosa



Mike Graham De La Rosa, "Bounty Hunter Chili Dog," 2020, Digital Illustration



Mike Graham De La Rosa, "Border Crossing (*Camino de Huitzililn*)," 2020, Digital Illustration

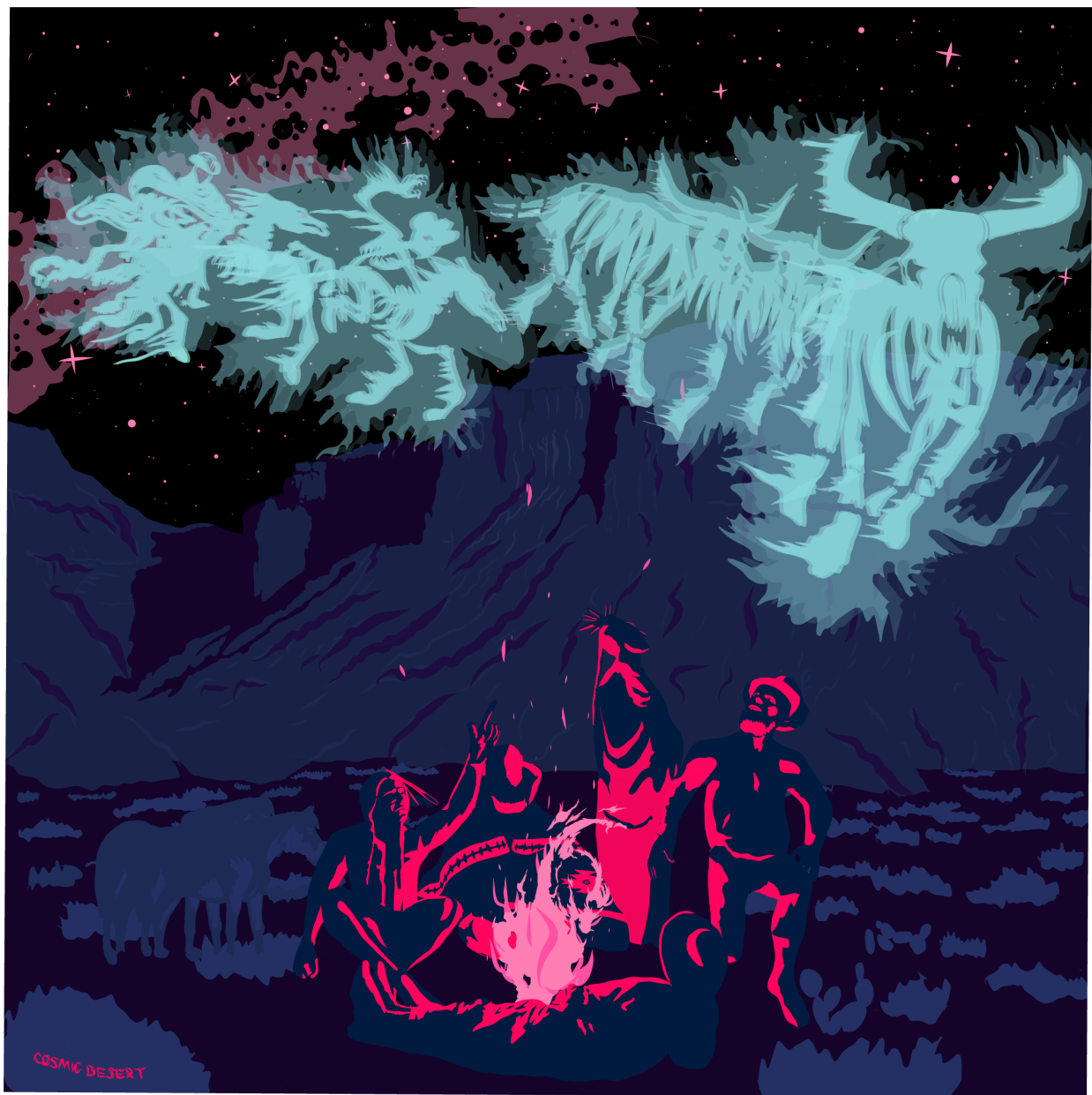




Mike Graham De La Rosa, "Cosbat," 2020, Digital Illustration



Mike Graham De La Rosa, "Finished Preview," 2020, Digital Illustration



Mike Graham De La Rosa, "Riders-In-The-Sky," 2020, Digital Illustration





Mike Graham De La Rosa, "Sagebrush Candypaint," 2020, Digital Illustration



Mike Graham De La Rosa, "Trinity (Children of the Grave)," 2020, Digital Illustration

**Mark Graham De La Rosa** was born and raised in Santa Fe, New Mexico and is currently working as a middle school Spanish teacher in the South Valley in Albuquerque. Like many immigrants, he and his family come from places that, according to him, “seem like other planets compared to this high desert.” De La Rosa’s art comes out of cultural and geological friction and movement. In the desert, people can see how time has shaped the land and its creatures. In people’s identities, one can see the layers of history in the making. Out of that struggle to form an identity comes the richness of culture and environment. De La Rosa describes his work as *Latinx Futurism* and *Cyber-Norteno*. *Cosmic Desert Art* adopts and reinvents those broadcasted invisible signals of pop culture that have



infiltrated even the most desolate dwellings of this planet. He often wonders how José Vasconcelos would react to seeing the *Raza Cósmica's* incorporation of punk, lowriders, Anime, Johnny Cash, and Atomic Bombs. Our Mayan astronomer ancestors thought of time as circular. This art suggests that our future and our past are intrinsically linked to our imaginary and fantastical realities.