

SELF-PORTRAIT AS ARTICLE 1[1]. [TREATY WITH THE NEZ
PERCÉS, 1855]: CESSION OF LANDS TO THE UNITED STATES

In the year of their lord, *this eleventh day of June*, I enter the boundaries of my body:

The said [centuries here dissolve & I re-ink *nimiipuu*] hereby cede, relinquish & convey—here,

I want to convey how my physical testament is written &, at a particular point, then erased into the land—

to the United States all their right, title, & interest in & to the country occupied or claimed by them,

bounded & described as follows, to wit:

in the year of their lord, in the boundaries of my body, *they* intend to clarify the divisions & say *to wit*:

& so I enter every name of the dead into each source of water, each river mouth, every flattened field:

& I cross out the cross of the divide & lie down on the crest of [every mountain has its name,

a place of, a place where the animals & humans met, a place where the story began,

a place where the blood was washed, a place at the heart named for our monster(s) & tim'néepe,

*a place where the gray coldness looms like *hiquixquxcentki*, where America names over the land [~~lapelipe~~*

~~néete~~], *a place where the blue haze of warmth looms like *bi'lap'ápxp'apxcanki*, where the bodies lie*

unburied]. I, a silhouette, a *hereunto*, am between the articles of the & *a(n)*: indefinite, definite:

& it is here in the *boundaries* I have no choice but: to set [my] hands, on *this eleventh day of June*,

on *behalf of the above-named, at the place, on the day & year hereinbefore written,*
to seal the body

shut:



[x] [an empty cross, fallen]

Sealed & signed in the presence of us—