<u>Judy Chicago</u> born in Chicago, United States; lives in Belen, United States

### Works:

Atmospheres, 1978 - , Archival pigment prints

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Judy Chicago, *Pink Atmosphere*, 2018. Archival pigment print. Image courtesy Through the Flower archive, Belen, NM. Courtesy the artist; Salon 94, New York; and Jessica Silverman Gallery, San Francisco.

## Project description:

Judy Chicago first turned to pyrotechnics in the late 1960s in an effort to feminize the atmosphere at a time when the California art scene was male-dominated. The photographs in the *Atmospheres* series transform and soften their surrounding landscapes, introducing a feminine impulse into the environment and using colour as a metaphor for emotive states.

#### Location:

Small Arms Inspection Building

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# Keywords and Connections

photography, performative intervention, landscape, feminism, atmosphere, immaterial

# Tool: Creating an Atmosphere

Take a moment to feel the space around you. What is the temperature? How large does it feel to you? Does the space around you seem empty or crowded? Is it noisy or quiet? Where are you in the space? Are you able to be yourself in it? If you could do one thing to change the atmosphere of this space temporarily, what would it be?

If it is changing the light in the space, try it. If it is making sound in the space, make it. If it is filling the space, invite others in. If it is moving in the space, give it a go. If it is slowing down the space, go slow. If it is stirring up the space, spread some joy. If it is quietening the space, just breathe. If it is leaving the space, find a way.

How did you choose to change the space you are in? Using a phone, camera, or other device, make a picture of the atmosphere you have created. From which point of view will you compose the picture? How will you frame the scene (what do you choose to leave in and leave out)? Do you need to add filters or layers

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to the image to help communicate more clearly? What is the atmosphere your picture creates?

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Questions and Conversation Starters

How would you describe an atmosphere?

Can a picture show something that is usually not visible like a feeling, memory, or sensation?

If you're able, spend some time with Judy Chicago's *Atmospheres* photographs.

What atmosphere do these photographs create when you spend time with them?

Share with your neighbour what you see or feel. If words are not enough, try making a gesture or sound.