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# Bitácora. AN EXPLORATION BETWEEN TWO WORLDS>100 **ILLUSTRATED CREATURES**

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AN EXPLORATION BETWEEN TWO WORLDS
>100 ILLUSTRATED CREATURES

# MATEO RUEDA

MFA THESIS EXHIBITION

### **Artist Statement**

Bitácora is the spanish word for log or a journal that is related to the observations explorers would make about their journeys. We observe this world around us and measure it, we write and draw about it. Modern science has taught us how insignificant we are in the universe, how abstract reality itself can be. We can only continue to wonder and keep exploring through this unsettling but delightful paradigm known as existence itself.

The merging of contradictions is a delightful idea. I'm seduced by the thought of distorting anything that stands as concrete and evident; to destroy elements and rebuild them in harmonious images. Drawing and painting in various medias are the ongoing and evolving techniques I adapt in my work, this is the spectrum my graphical and symbolic expressions.

Within my work I take into account the beauty found in the language related to rational thinking, and the emotional thrust that I find in the appreciation of animal life around me and through the teachings of my dog Milo.

In growing up with a mathematician/geometrician mother, I developed a visual interest in the use of structural form. We humans study the cosmos as we search for beauty and attempt to define it through numbers and equations. I work with schematics in the form of a journal in which I merge them with a set of animal sketches. In a taxonomic manner the work is exposed in different compositions, each piece talks about a set of species or subspecies of the animal kingdom.

In the end I want to bring together both worlds into one image where I wish to evoke an appreciation between the viewer and the many forms of life present, I believe we all have a deep responsibility and connection with the natural world surrounding our existence.



Rodents Title: Rodenta







Reptiles: Title: Reptilia

Printed transfer, graphite, charcoal, watercolor.







Crustaceans and Molluscs

Title: Mollusca

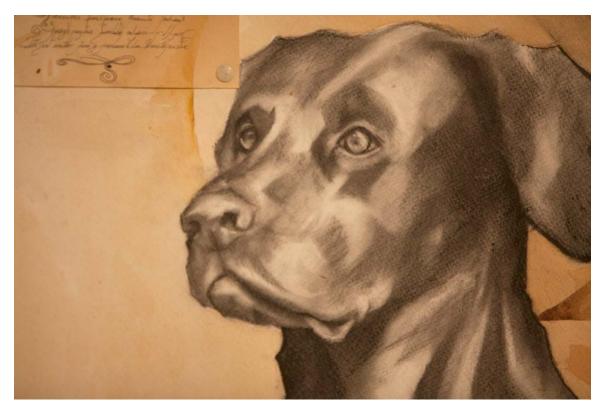






Dog Portrait Title: Milo

Medium: Graphite, charcoal, watercolor, pastel.







Microcosmos

Title: Microcosmos







Sea creatures

Title: Vida Marina





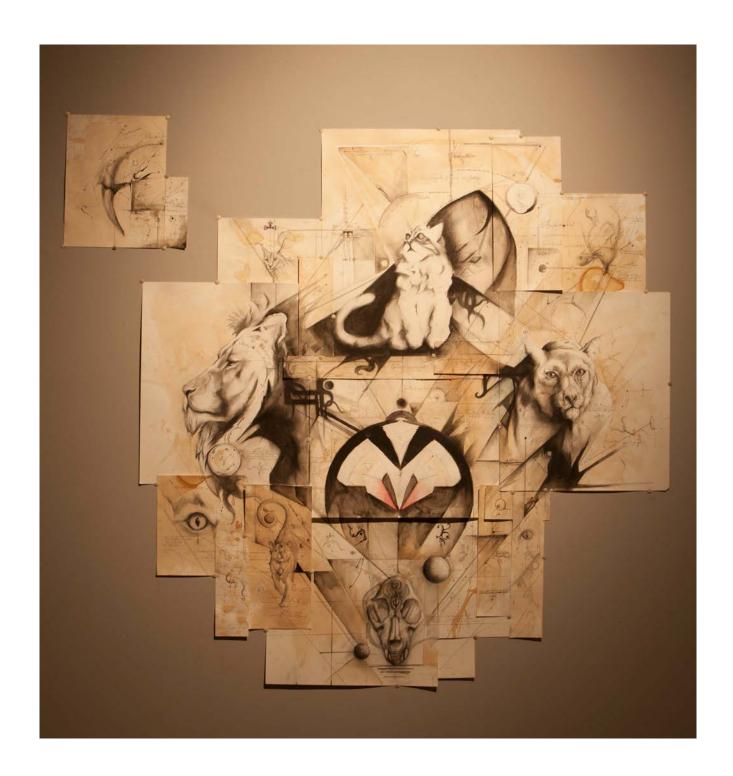


Insects

Title: Insectum







Felines Title: Felino







Birds

Title: Avis







Mammals

Title: Mammal



