Bitácora. AN EXPLORATION BETWEEN TWO WORLDS>100
ILLUSTRATED CREATURES

Mateo Rueda
Utah State University

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An exploration between two worlds
>100 illustrated creatures

Mateo Rueda
MFA thesis exhibition
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
Medium: Printed transfer, graphite, charcoal, watercolor, pastel, ink.
Reptiles:
Title: Reptilia
Printed transfer, graphite, charcoal, watercolor.
Crustaceans and Molluscs
Title: Mollusca
Medium: Printed transfer, graphite, charcoal, watercolor.
Dog Portrait
Title: Milo
Medium: Graphite, charcoal, watercolor, pastel.
Microcosmos
Title: Microcosmos
Medium: Printed transfer, graphite, charcoal, watercolor, pastel, ink.
Sea creatures
Title: Vida Marina
Medium: Printed transfer, graphite, charcoal, watercolor, pastel.
Insects
Title: Insectum
Medium: Printed transfer, graphite, charcoal, watercolor, ink.
Felines
Title: Felino
Medium: Printed transfer, graphite, charcoal, watercolor, ink.
Birds
Title: Avis
Medium: Printed transfer, graphite, charcoal, watercolor, ink.
Mammals
Title: Mammal
Medium: Printed transfer, graphite, charcoal, watercolor, ink.