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DEBORAH MITCHELL

Wild Observations in American Flyways

March 12 – July 5, 2020

CameraWorks Gallery North Terminal, Gates D22 & D25

Mia

galleries

Miami International Airport Division of Fine Arts & Cultural Affairs



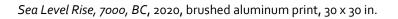
DEBORAH MITCHELL Wild Observations in American Flyways

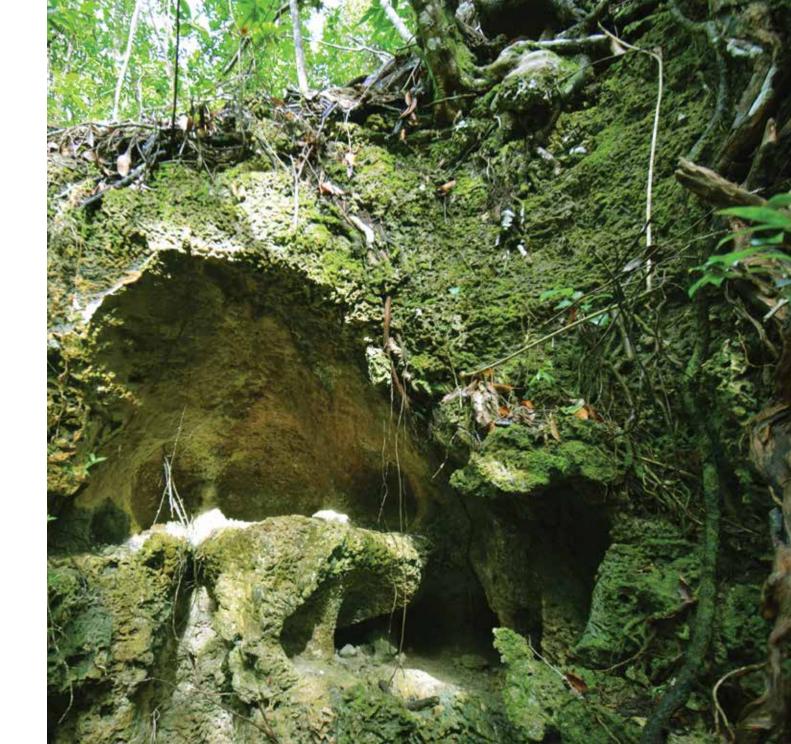
All of life is connected, with constant change especially evident in active migratory corridors, called *flyways*. Field Stations are often strategically placed in these flyways where scientists research changes in biodiversity. National Parks and Field Stations are windows to these ecosystems, where natural ecological responses to water, weather, animals and even humans constantly change.

Combining scientific research with artistic interpretation, Deborah Mitchell's site-specific series of exhibitions map the changes in American wildlife corridors. *Wild Observations in American Flyways* consists of Mitchell's photo-based collages and paintings that draw largely on biological data about our changing environment and demonstrate the connections between living things and why they matter.

Deborah Mitchell is an artist and curator whose practice examines man's extremely precarious relationship with nature (think alligators, pythons, flamingos and water rights). Because she resides in South Florida, one of the most precariously situated cities on the front lines of global climate change, she immerses herself in local ecology, specializing in the Florida Everglades. Mitchell's work highlights the process of exploring our stunning natural resources, while igniting curiosity for our cultural history. With over 14 years of facilitating unique outreach projects both in the wilderness and urban core, Mitchell has an unparalleled ability to unify the voices of artists and scientists in the diverse communities of South Florida and beyond. Deborah's work always inspires us to connect with nature and motivates us to get out in it. Her passion for our natural wonders comes through in every one of her creations."

> – Pedro Ramos, Superintendent, Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Park







American Adaptations, 2020, brushed aluminum print, 30 x 30 in.

throughout their range Survey. Canadian por thous had over cumulative loss the U.S., not on t

Great Horned Owls are common encycidespread throughout much of the Americas, however populations declined tween 1966 and 2015, according to the North American Breeding Bird reater declines - over 2.5% per year during those years - resulting in a t estimates the global breeding population at 6 million with about 45% of in co. The species rates an 8 out of 20 on the Continental Concern Score and is

> hunted until the practice was abolished in the mid-twentieth century. Some illegal opulations rise and fall in cycles along with prey populations. The species adapts well ig as nest sites are available. In the Pacific Northwest they have expanded into open land ess as predators, Great Horned Owls can pose a threat to other nd Spotted Owls. Owls are sometimes poisoned by pesticides and in their prey.

C. Stuart Houston, Dwight G. Smith and Christoph Rohner. (2013). Great Horned Owl on 2.0. In The Birds of North America (P. G. Rodewald, editor). Cornell Lab of Ornithology,

threatened species (Version 2012.2) (2012).

The Owl, 2020, brushed aluminum print, 30 x 30 in.

The New York Times Los insectos tienen ha

Desde que los humanos aprendieron semilla de frijol se han dado 20 por ciento de las plantas qu que las sabandijas tengan más

Eso podria incitar a los ca cientificos.

Por cada grado Celsius que la que se pierde a causa de los como las de Estados Unidos y

El Acuerdo de París está dis mundo están muy lejos de cump

Al consumir una cantidad tan de pan antes de que siguiera y autor del estudio. "Si la termine este siglo, eso equi

más veloces, así que los in población humana sígue aumen estudio.

Para llegar a sus cálculos, Deutsch ciento de las calorias que

Otros factores podrian ayuda más cálido, dijo Michael Climáticas Inteligentes, qui no sea tan grave como lo sug

Ese estudio encontró que la itrapación miliorada podria

Además, los pesticidas pueden dañar involuntariamente otros or canismos, y algunos se han relacionado con problemas de salud en los humanos. Su fabricación, transporte y utilización también contribuyen al calentamento global

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explico

Deutsch dijo que la verdadera solución es reducir drásticamente el nivel de gases de efecto internadero que emiten los humanos. "Si queremos resolver un gran problema con un millón de ramificaciones, tenemos que llegar hasta la raiz", explicó. "Si no, se fabricará un millón de vendas adhesivas. No creo que eso sea viable. También es mucho más dificil".

Kendra Pierre-Louis es reportera del equipo de clima. Antes de unirse a The New York Times en 2017, realizó cobertura científica y ambiental para Popular Science.

Las temperaturas más altas .

en la alimentación y la repr

Aun así, las temperaturas m los insectos. Un estudio publ veraniegas aumentadas podrian que coincide con patrones de

claro si los insecticidas podrían avudar honvitan la promiseción -

participe

"Esa hogaza de pan que perdemos actual a causa de los insectos", dijo Deutsc regiones, "realmente se cuestiona si ya

nsectos consumen hasta el de calentamiento global haga ta Science. no ambiental, señalaron los

> tidad de trigo, maiz y arroz egiones agricolas templadas.

s, pero todos los países del

con una de cada ocho hogazas la Universidad de Washington delos climáticos para cuando en vez de una".

los de vida también se hacen de los cultivos mientras la en todo el mundo, señala el

tos del calentamiento global peoorque conforman el 42 por

drian prosperar en un clima ornell para las Soluciones las plagas, para que el daño

Mentemente de la actividad de resiones de las temperaturas Calor europea de este verano.

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Polinizadores Nocturnos, 2020, brushed aluminum print, 30 x 30 in.

4 de septiembre de 2018

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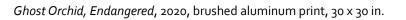
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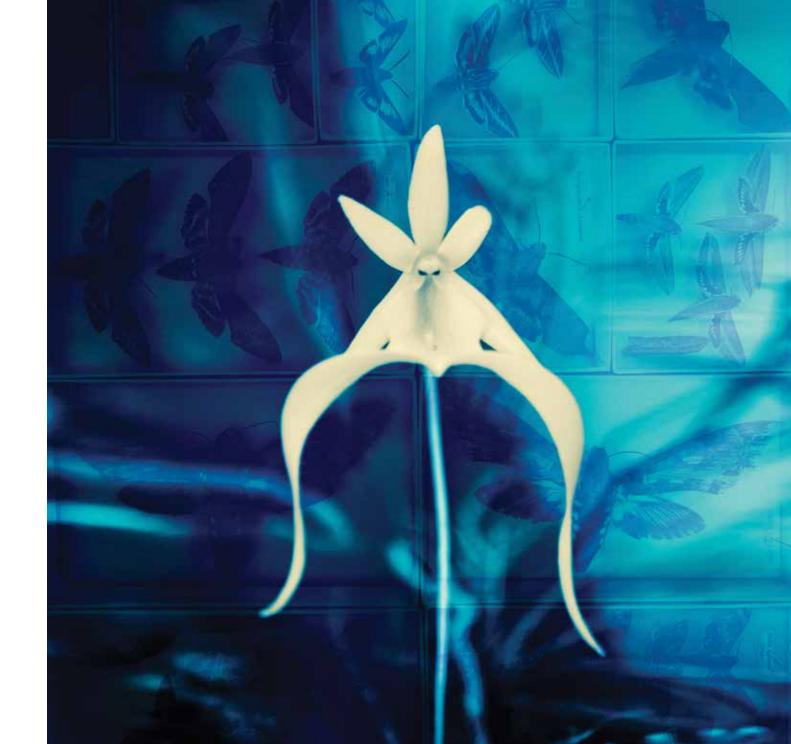
One hundred years after the passage of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act that protected birds from the brink of extinction, climate change is the biggest threat to birds worldwide. Deborah Mitchell's Wild Observations will shine a light on the impacts human interactions pose on climate, and its effects on the flyways and wild corridors that birds and other species depend to survive."

> - Celeste De Palma, Director of Everglades Policy, Audubon Florida

Spoonbill in Repose, 2016, brushed aluminum print, 30 x 30 in.









The Tribal Invasives, 2019, acrylic on canvas, 48 x 48 in.

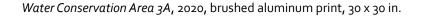


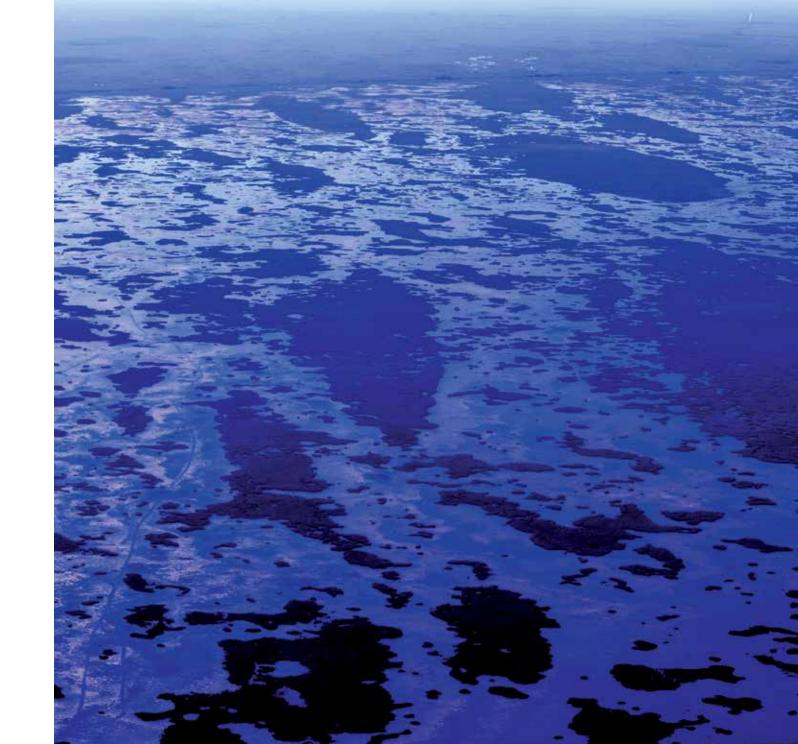
Cape Sable Songbirds, 2016, acrylic on canvas, 48 x 48 in.



In the heart of the Greater Everglades, amidst the shimmering waters of the River of Grass, the lifeways of indigenous communities like the Miccosukee & Seminole peoples and their relationships to the Natural World are reflected in their traditional and contemporary arts and crafts, as well as their conservation initiatives. Deborah's artwork portrays a world that honors and integrates multiple epistemologies, daring us to transform our own relationships with ecologies, a reciprocal dance of hope, solidarity, and the stunning simplicity of vast & resilient landscapes."

> – Rev. Houston R. Cypress, Otter Clan, Miccosukee Tribe; co-founder of Love The Everglades Movement







Detail of American Adaptations, 2020, brushed aluminum print, 30 x 30 in.

Born in 1965 in Canada to Scottish immigrants, I spent the winters of my youth following the Atlantic migration corridor south in search of warmer weather. I have vivid memories of watching birds fly in sync with our family car; over dramatic mountain ranges, past golden prairies and through lush southern wetlands. This annual family ritual is the foundation for my ever present wonder and appreciation of nature, and the anchor of my pursuit of environmental knowledge. These early process-based experiences are now mirrored in my practice as a South Florida based visual artist, as I continue visiting migration flyways to better understand and interpret our relationship with the American wilderness.

My empathetic relationship with the highly contested Everglades landscape has evolved over the last 50 years. Since my Big Cypress residency in 2007, it has been important to me to present careful, science-based work which also has a spiritual and ephemeral side. These two concepts can be harmonious, but require careful consideration and research before finalizing any project. While representing the issues facing our complex environment, fact checking and cultural research is just as important as the subject, composition, color and context. My collaboration with research centers, indigenous tribes, biologists and park staff allowed me to bring critical environmental issues, including images from specimen collections, to a wider audience. My work presents a unique interpretation of endangered species in a threatened biosphere. Select works evoke memories of a bygone era and weave together the cultural fabric of displaced human populations and decreasing biodiversity.

As an artist I approach how our sense of place has had an effect on the environment. My practice is rooted in a passion to share critical interpretations of nature's bounty in a way which is approachable to the public at large, and that results in increased appreciation, protection and conservation of our dwindling natural resources.

– Deborah Mitchell