



JRB ART
AT THE ELMS
Pasco Arts District

NEW WORKS AT THE GALLERY!

GRACE GROTHAUS' ***AGAINST OUR BETTER NATURE SERIES***

Through her research driven installations, sculptures, photographs, videos and performances, Grothaus explores the complex web of ideas relating to the pressing ecological crisis of biodiversity loss resulting from climate change. She questions on how can we reshape our relationships with each other and collectively awaken to a role of intra and inter-species respect, mutualism, and stewardship.

Grothaus' artworks have been exhibited and/or collected on five continents including in the International Symposium of Electronic Art (2018) and the World Creativity Biennale (2012). Notable public artworks include Trace, a large-scale work using LED pavers produced for the city of Tulsa (2016). Grothaus earned a BFA at the Kansas City Art Institute and is currently nearing completion of an MFA at the University of California, San Diego, where she resides with her partner, dog, and numerous plants.

ARTIST STATEMENT



"As a result of cumulative anthropogenic activity, a global mass extinction is currently in progress. It's estimated that the general animal population around the world has fallen by 68% on average, and up to 94% in tropical regions, bioregions with the most diversity of life. The situation is worse for plants, for which there is no estimate, and some species which are now going extinct, were never yet even identified by the scientific community. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, IPCC, reports one million species at risk for extinction due to human-induced climate change. Even if all greenhouse gas emitting activity were to stop tomorrow, we will see the compounding effect for many years to come. Our future is already here.

These three photographs, *Valeu*, *Beleza*, & *Record* are part of a larger effort of mine to document and highlight plant biodiversity in hotspots across the Americas before it vanishes. I hope that we will refocus our attention on the plant world, our best carbon sequesterers, and see in them the possibility for a brighter future than we are presently bringing into being through our collective actions. My views are not one of an indictment on any one individual's action, but rather a call for broad, systemic awareness and change. Together we must enact a better world, even as we are aware that climate change's effects will be borne most greatly by the most vulnerable among us. I hope that calling attention to these beautiful beings through my artwork will not only help me to grapple with my ever-growing ecoanxiety, but also help to raise ecoconsciousness in others. A portion of all of my income, regardless of source, and countless hours of my time are donated annually to fighting biodiversity loss and correcting climate change."



Grace Grothause, "Valeu," 2020, Full Color Print on Matte Aluminum, 12 x 12 in., \$750.00



Grace Grothause, "Record," 2019, Full Color Print on Matte Aluminum, 12 x 12 in., \$750.00

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