Elizabeth S. Dickenson

Portfolio Presentation

Since childhood I’ve felt compelled to tell stories, whether verbally or visually. Some pieces are born out of passion and purpose, some from dreams or fantasies, but all begin with a story. I’m driven to create works that inspires curiosity in the viewer about the story within the illustration. My goal is to invoke a whole range of thoughts and feelings in the viewer, from the serene to the tumultuous—to take the them out of the here and now and invite them into other worlds.

I’ve lived in a lot of different places growing up and taken a piece of each place with me. Intrigued by imaginative realism, I strive to bring realistic rendering to the realm of the fantastic. My work is influenced by the art of the golden age of illustration and contemporary science fiction and fantasy art. Despite the adage that one shouldn’t judge a book by its cover, the covers of my favorite books always drew me in first, and in more recent years, the archetypal imagery of tarot. I’m inspired by the subjects, colors, and textures of the natural world, as well as the surreal imagery of my dreams. I want to take all these influences and let them shine through my art.

Image List

1. Installation view, Jack Olson Gallery, DeKalb, IL
2. *Endangered/Extinct*, 2018
   Graphite, digital
3. *Delicately Adorned*, 2018
   Watercolor, gouache, colored pencil, digital
2.
E. S. Dickenson
*Endangered/Extinct, 2018*
Graphite, digital

Australian numbat, walpurti

*Mymecobius fasciatus*

Tasmanian tiger, thylacine

*Thylacinus cynocephalus*
3.
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*Delicately Adorned*, 2018
Watercolor, gouache, colored pencil, digital