

Biological Realms May 20 – August 16, 2024

Artists: Angie Follensbee-Hall Jon Krasner Kerry St. Laurent Heather Stearns

From botanical drawings to sculpture made from fungi, for centuries artists have looked to the biological realm for inspiration and materials. Mutualism is a term used in biology to describe a relationship between two living organisms that both benefit from one another. In an abstract sense, the reciprocity between art and nature can be interpreted as a kind of mutualism. The four contemporary artists in this exhibition each demonstrate how their relationship to nature has shaped their art practice.

Angie Follensbee-Hall uses paper pulp and found materials to create richly textured sculptures that reference botanical forms. Jon Krasner works across media to interrogate natural systems and translates them in art that celebrates the complexity of nature and biology. Kerry St. Laurent takes microbiology as her springboard, often incorporating cellular structures and other microscopic elements as a point of departure for her multi-media work. Heather Stearns explores the human form in found-object assemblages that reference the body's respiratory system. Each artist in their own way embraces the natural world as a source of inspiration, and in doing so, reminds the viewer of the preciousness of natural resources, the fragility of life and the wonders and joy of discovery.

RVCC Projects is a gallery and project space that serves as a platform for art exhibitions, special projects and public programs complementing RVCC's curriculum, promoting diversity, and enriching the community's cultural landscape. The gallery hosts three exhibitions per year, highlighting the artistic achievements of artists working across media, with a special emphasis on critically engaged, rigorous art from the region.

Location: River Valley Community College Claremont Campus – Main Entrance 1 College Place Claremont, NH 03743 Hours: Monday – Friday: 9:00am – 4:00pm

For inquiries, please contact Eric Sutphin at rvccgallery@ccsnh.edu

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