

# Artist Roster

## ALEXANDRA HEHLEN

[@by.alexandrahehlen](#) / [alexandra-hehlen.com](#) / [work samples](#)

Alexandra Hehlen's artistic practice is her lifelong practice: to connect with nature and empower others to do the same. The desert of northern New Mexico is where she first formed her bond with the outdoors. It was also her first art teacher – a master of clean lines and forms. It opened her eyes to abstraction and geometrical composition. In her landscape and wildlife photography, she uses the simplicity of these elements to invite curiosity and encourage others to discover something familiar in a subject that may seem foreign. She finds that familiarity brings intimacy, and intimacy brings empathy. She uses this foundational approach to explore human relationships – or the lack thereof – with species and landscapes in remote areas around the world. At the same time, she continues to grapple with where she was raised, deepening her understanding of the region's rich and traumatic history through the stories that its landscapes tell. This is a sensitivity she extends to any region she photographs.

## MARTHA HOLMES

[@quarkonia](#) / [work samples](#)

Martha Holmes is a scientist and artist. Her art takes inspiration from science, nature, emotional states, as well as indigenous, prehistoric and abstract art.

## BENJAMIN HUNT

[@itsbenalongtime\\_](#) / no work samples

Nature is the original realist, impressionist, abstractionist, and surrealist all at once. In his work, Benjamin is inspired by the original Hudson School - that brought us enhanced light and glorified landscapes - as much as by early botanist and biologists who collected and cataloged the first samples of lifeforms found during early explorations. He enjoys blending found natural objects, insects, and plant specimens into scenes and multimedia pieces inspired by the wonders, originality, and invention of nature itself.

## TARA KEIR

[@tarankeir](#) / [tarankeir.com](#) / [work samples](#)

Tara Keir is a DC based artist, conservationist, and creative storyteller who uses a thoughtful and in-depth approach to understanding and communicating the human side of wildlife crises around the globe. Tara's artwork strives to be a tether between us—humans, species, and ecosystems in peril—by providing means to explore and reflect upon the coexistence narratives depicted within her larger storytelling projects. Through her artwork, viewers are invited and challenged to confront the reality that humans are not removed from, but rather, an integral and highly influential part of ecosystems and their survival. By creating art and crafting stories that challenge harmful mainstream misconceptions, she hopes to inspire a turning of the lens onto ourselves to understand the role we all play in the conservation issues at our doorstep, and also those worlds away.

## MATT MAKARA

[@makara14](#) / [mattmakaraphoto.com](#) / [work samples](#)

Matt is a multiformat photographer who utilizes digital, film and historic photographic processes to capture the natural world. He has an affinity for photographing trees, mountains, and water, and enjoys experimenting with creative techniques, antique equipment, and a range of photographic processes. He hopes that his images encourage an appreciation for nature and convey a sense of adventure and tranquility.

## KELLY RUSSO-PETRICK

[@russokm1105](#) / [russokm1105.wixsite.com/kelly-r-photography](#) / [work samples](#)

Kelly Russo-Petrack is a photographer and ecology professor. She mainly does nature and wildlife photography. She hopes that her photography can help instill a love of wildlife in others. Her series ties into the theme "A Persistent Nature," by focusing on wildlife species that have come back from near extinction.

## TYLER SANVILLE

[@tyler.makes.things](#) / [tylermakesthings.com](#) / [work samples](#)

Tyler is a modern fiber artist and instructor based in Riverdale, MD, specializing in punch needle rug hooking. Her practice is shaped by a 15-year career in environmental advocacy, drawing continual inspiration from the natural world. Blending traditional textile techniques with contemporary expression, Tyler uses bold colors and rich textures to create abstract fiber art that resembles textures and patterns found in landscapes and ecosystems.

## KATHARINE SHUMAN

[@thekjsstudio](#) / [katharineshuman.com.com](#) / [work samples](#)

Tyler is a modern fiber artist and instructor based in Riverdale, MD, specializing in punch needle rug hooking. Her practice is shaped by a 15-year career in environmental advocacy, drawing continual inspiration from the natural world. Blending traditional textile techniques with contemporary expression, Tyler uses bold colors and rich textures to create abstract fiber art that resembles textures and patterns found in landscapes and ecosystems.