



Second Domestication, 2015, interior house paint, photograph on plexiglas variable installation dimensions

Onloaded: Lauren Strohacker

April 17 – May 10, 2015

“There is a colorful bird laying on the ground”

On the other side of the window, A rosy-faced lovebird lies as if sleeping, killed on impact by the invisible barrier...

A feral population of rosy-faced lovebirds (*Agapornis roseicollis*) resides in the greater Phoenix area. Their ancestors, plucked from the wilds of Southwestern Africa, were shipped to pet stores and breeders around the world. Originating from several domesticated escapees in the 1980’s, this is the only known feral population in the United States and their localized success is a combination of several factors. First, the exotic pet trade, while popular, is often mishandled, leading to escapes and/or releases of these birds into the local environment. Second, the Phoenix climate, manipulated by built water sources, is similar to the species’ place of origin. Finally, there currently exists a lack of evidence indicating disruption to native species. Though striking and unique, the Phoenix population is the result of man-made artifice posing as paradise.

Using a spectrophotometer, feather hues are converted to interior house paint, and reimagined as decorative wall features.

-Lauren Strohacker



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