

Jamie George  
Artist Statement

My work often takes on the form of creatures, both factual and fictional. The wildlife we see around us and the monsters we read about in fantasy. I learn about them as well as explore the relationship between them. I draw many of my influences from bodies of fantasy work, and think about how the real world dangers that plague the animal kingdom can affect the creatures of that environment. I often find myself asking the question what if the monsters we read about in fairy tales and folklore experienced the same treatment that wildlife today face? What if those creatures were once real, and have since gone extinct; all that remains is the written documentation? Or what if these monsters did exist today? They would face situations such as entrapment in zoos and such other attractions for our entertainment, or possibly hunted for sport or goods. They could even face domestication as exotic pets. Be it extinction, entrapment, hunting, or even domestication, any creature is susceptible. On the other hand, what if wildlife had some sort of mythical element to it? Crossing the boundaries of what we know and what we imagine. These are the things I think about and explore in my work.

My work is primarily centered around creating with ceramic hand building, traditional drawing with pencil, and a variety of printmaking processes, each with an emphasis on control. My ceramic work focuses on animal forms and experimentation with textural elements. I use a process that is both additive and subtractive to create these forms, this way I have complete control over the medium. I am able to build something up and take away when needed. Similarly to how creatures take control of their environment, and have a give and take

relationship with it. When it comes to printmaking, I prefer to work with woodcuts, linocuts, and screenprints. These methods require precise control of layering and registration to build up the image. My printmaking designs are often more simplified and minimalistic giving the forms a more commanding presence. Whereas when I draw, I focus on fine lines and details giving my image a more idyllic and organic appearance.