

REBECCA HOSSACK

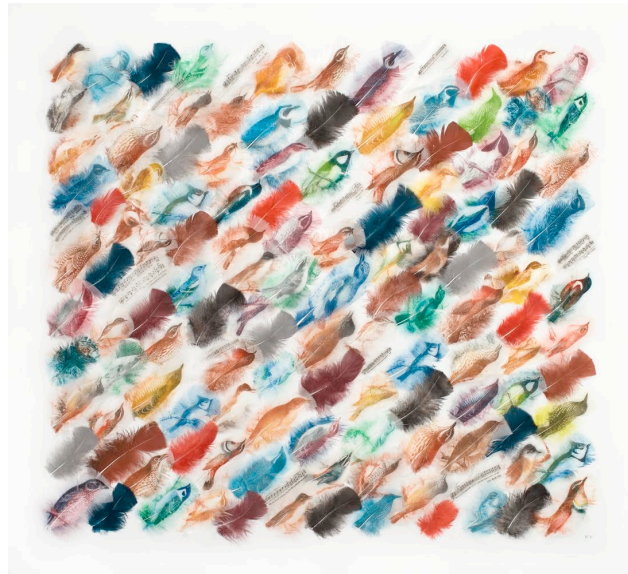
GALLERY NYC

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Please contact Allison Therrien at associate.director@rebeccahossack.com or 212-925-3500 with any press inquiries.

REBECCA JEWELL: FROM NESTS TO NETS

DECEMBER 10, 2014 – JANUARY 6, 2015



Rebecca Jewell, *Songbird Soup*, 2014, hand printed feathers

New York, NY – Rebecca Hossack Gallery is pleased to announce *From Nests to Nets* an exhibition of new work by British artist Rebecca Jewell.

Jewell's passion for studying and cataloguing birds and feathers continues in her latest body of work. She is mindful of the fragility of these creatures both in terms of their long-term preservation as well as their physical presence and encapsulates ideas around the capturing and trapping of birds. In the exhibition, *From Nests to Nets*, Jewell considers this in a profound and foreboding way, shining a light on contemporary methods of bird capture such as mist-nets, audio recordings of bird sounds as well as historical methods of caging and trapping. American author Jonathan Franzen writes in the forward to Jewell's exhibition brochure "...unless laws are changed and enforcement seriously increased, we are in the age, right now, when bird life may well dwindle to a sterile monoculture of crows and pigeons."

As seen in her previous works, Jewell visualizes this fragility of wild birds by using feathers as her chosen medium for printing, collage and illustration – the feathers used are from domestic birds and "found" moulted feathers.

The delicate nature of her work highlights the vulnerability of her subject matter. Her piece *Martha*

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pays tribute to the passenger pigeon, once one of the most ubiquitous birds in America. This year marks the centenary of the passenger pigeon's extinction. Through her work and its context within the world of historical classification and institution, Jewell balances an objective opinion towards the capturing of birds: condemning mass capture leading to extinction while also supporting and giving reason to scientific preservation and study.

Rebecca Jewell is Artist-in-Residence in the Oceania section of the Department of Africa, Oceania and the Americas of the British Museum and has recently taken up a residency at the American Museum of Natural History. She received a PhD in Natural History Illustration from the Royal College of Art (2004) and was awarded a studio residency at the Florence Trust (2005-6). Jewell has exhibited globally. Her work has been selected for the ING Discerning Eye exhibition, the Waterhouse Natural History Prize and the National Open Art Competition. In 2013 and 2014 she was invited to participate in the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition. Her work was included in 'Woman Artists: Images of Nature', at the Natural History Museum, London (2014). Jewell's work is held in the collections of the Natural History Museum, London, the British Museum the British Library and the National Trust (Chastleton House). She was recently commissioned to make a piece for the Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.

As part of this exhibition at RHG, Mott Street, Jewell will be uniting with the American Museum of Natural History, the Audubon Society, New York and Prospect Park Alliance. At an event at the Prospect Park Audubon Center, Jewell and Jennifer Newell, Curator of Pacific Ethnography at the AMNH, will speak about Jewell's work, her residency at the AMNH and how art and exhibition can serve as a political tool to highlight the ecological and environmental changes caused by the mass-killing and hunting of wild birds. This event will take place on Thursday December 11th 2014.

About Rebecca Hossack Gallery

The Rebecca Hossack Gallery in New York was opened in May 2011, and was founded by the renowned London art dealer Rebecca Hossack to sit globally alongside her two successful London galleries. Originally from Australia, Hossack founded the London galleries in 1988 and has built a reputation for exhibiting contemporary art of rare individual vision.

The New York City gallery space resides at 262 Mott Street in Nolita.

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