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STORY DETAILS

Title:

I Dream of 'Alala

Author:

Margaret Barnaby

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Place:

Hawai'i

Summary:

This collection of woodblock prints by the artist Margaret Barnaby all explore the plight of the critically endangered 'alala or Hawaiian crow (*Corvus hawaiiensis*).

Author bio:

Margaret Barnaby grew up in New England, attended Rhode Island School of Design and after living in New York City moved to the Big Island of Hawai'i. After 30 years as a studio art jeweler her interest turned to large scale wood block prints. She now lives and works in the town of Volcano, Hawai'i. For further information on Margaret and her work please visit: www.margaretbarnaby.com

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I DREAM OF 'ALALA

This collection of woodblock prints by the artist Margaret Barnaby all explore the plight of the critically endangered 'alala or Hawaiian crow (*Corvus hawaiiensis*). Reduced to a handful of birds in the early 2000s, all of the remaining 'alala were taken into captivity and the species became extinct in the wild. In 2017, however, conservationists began to slowly start releasing 'alala back into the forests of the Big Island, in the Pu'u Maka'ala Natural Area Reserve on the southeast slope of Mauna Loa. Throughout this long captive period, when 'alala were missing from the landscape, Margaret took up the vital work of keeping them and their stories moving in the world, helping to generate awareness and concern. In her words "When I first saw the 'alala and learned it's story it seemed the perfect subject for my prints. It is a metaphor for the best and worst of humanity. We caused its demise and we can save the birds. Of course, as an artist the graphic impact of a large black bird is also attractive."

All of the prints reproduced here are multiple plate wood block prints (30" x 44"). They are titled: 1.) I Dream of 'Alala, Orange 'Ohia; 2.) No Safe Haven; 3.) Second Chances; 4.) Second Wind; 5.) Once in a Blue Moon.



I Dream of 'Alala, Orange 'Ohia



No Safe Haven



Second Chances



Second Wind



Once in a Blue Moon