

# Rose Sanderson

HEADBONES GALLERY

ARTIST in RESIDENCE



**The Drawers - Headbones Gallery**  
*Contemporary Drawing, Sculpture and Works on Paper*

**Rose Sanderson**

ARTIST in RESIDENCE

APRIL 1 - MAY 1, 2015

HEADBONES GALLERY

Artist Catalog: Rose Sanderson - Artist in Residence  
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This catalog was created for Rose Sanderson, Artist in Residence at  
Headbones Gallery, Vernon, BC April 1 - May, 2015

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Rich Fog Micro Publishing, printed in Canada, 2015  
Layout, Design and photographic reproductions by Richard Fogarty

Printed on the Ricoh SPC 830DN

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[www.headbonesgallery.com](http://www.headbonesgallery.com)

Cover Image: *Chipmunks in San Francisco* - 2015  
Acrylic on photo transfer on paper, 18 x 29 cm

ISBN: 978-1-926605-82-1

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Commentary by Julie Oakes





### **Rose Sanderson - Mystical Osmosis**

Rose Sanderson, from Bristol England, completed several works during her residency at Headbones Gallery. As Sanderson prepared for her lying in (the condition of a woman in the process of giving birth), she worked with studied concentration on a series of images that depicted a discrepancy in scale.

In *Black Winged Stilt, Stinson Beach California*, a group of people on a beach at the ocean side are seen from a distance so that they appear to be very small. They are staring towards the horizon as a giant bird, rippling the waves as its feet plant in the water, strides across their view. The giant bird moving across the

sight line of the miniscule smattering of humans on the beach makes the people pale in comparison to the monolithic, feathery advance.

In each of nine pieces there is a giant bird or animal in the context of a scene. For these works, Sanderson did a transfer print of a photograph which she had taken during her two years of travel in North America and onto this surface she painted with acrylic using a brush the size of a baby's eyelash. She enlarged the birds and animals in contrast to the setting to send a message of import at odds with the actual, *real* size of the creature. The resulting images make a profound ecological point - as the environment becomes more precarious while progress plows forwards, the smaller creatures can be overshadowed by man's ambition. As tracks of natural land are developed, species must learn to adapt and fend in ways hitherto unimagined. They must change or disappear. In Sanderson's new works they have grown to monumental size. Within this elaboration of contrasts there is a profound realization that no matter how big or small, each being has his place - an *unarguable* place within the order of existence.

We experience this correction in scale when there is a new baby in a company. No matter how important the adult individuals are within the company, their status is diminished within the hypnotizing aura of an infant. All eyes become rivetted to this new person, concerns of the day disappear and the miracle of being overwhelms. It is an unconscious response to the potential that lies within each vulnerable beginning. Sanderson's enlargement of birds and animals grants them a power very like the attraction of a baby, a power that is more balanced in their favor.

An intrinsic influence seeped into Sanderson's work during this residency to become a subliminal reference. The magnificence that lies within the small, once visually acknowledged, secures the authentic worth of each species to render to man's thoughtless dominion the lesser status just as the birth of a child presses a refresh button that gives reason to re-think man's place within the order. It's a privileged perspective that dawns with conception, continues through the 280 days and culminates when the new life is realized. It is an awareness that lasts a lifetime. Rose Sanderson has an established practice of depicting animals (she illustrates for the BBC); the fact she is carrying a child has placed the subject in a frame that inclusively references a larger concept.

The large drawing, *Mammals I Encountered*, where 16 animals which she has viewed during her North American tour float in the pristine space of a large white sheet of paper, provokes a two-fold awareness. One causes a greater awareness of the unique specificity of species and the second brings into focus the skill of the artist. These works when seen through a magnifying glass show feather, fur and scale in a detail greater than is seen with the naked eye. Is it that Rose Sanderson has super-keen vision or is she so practiced in depiction that her hand obeys through habit or a mystical osmosis the signals from her brain where she has stored the way to depict hair, whisker, claw or eyelash? Using the minuscule in the service of grand themes, Sanderson's work is an affirmation of the miracle of existence.

Julie Oakes, Vernon, BC, 2015



Kangaroo Rat - On Route to Death Valley, California - 2015  
Acrylic (6 x 15 cm) on artist's photo (13 x 13 cm) transferred to paper (35 x 33 cm)



Pigeon - San Francisco, California - 2015

Acrylic (5 x 7 cm) on artist's photo (13 x 13 cm) transferred to paper (35 x 33 cm)



Marmot - Mount Lassen, California - 2015

Acrylic (4 x 8 cm) on artist's photo (13 x 13 cm) transferred to paper (35 x 33 cm)



Black-Winged Stilt - Stinson Beach, California - 2015  
Acrylic (5 x 7 cm) on artist's photo (13 x 13 cm) transferred to paper (35 x 33 cm)





Raccoon - Butte, Montana - 2015

Acrylic (5 x 9 cm) on artist's photo (13 x 13 cm) transferred to paper (35 x 33 cm)



Road Runner - Joshua Tree National Park, California - 2015  
Acrylic (6 x 9 cm) on artist's photo (13 x 13 cm) transferred to paper (35 x 33 cm)



Black Birds - Alameda Laundromat, California - 2015  
Acrylic (8 x 9 cm) on artist's photo (13 x 13 cm) transferred to paper (35 x 33 cm)



Snake - Great Sand Dunes National Park, Colorado - 2015  
Acrylic (7 x 10 cm) on artist's photo (13 x 13 cm) transferred to paper (35 x 33 cm)





Mammals I Encountered - 2015  
Coloured pencil on paper (100 x 67 cm)



Mammals I Encountered (Bison detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (5 x 7.5 cm)



Mammals I Encountered (Marmot detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (4 x 6 cm)



Mammals I Encountered (Black Bear detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (4.5 x 7 cm)





Mammals I Encountered (Big Horn Sheep detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (5.5 x 8 cm)



Mammals I Encountered (Chipmunk detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (3 x 7.5 cm)



Mammals I Encountered (Coyote detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (5 x 5.5 cm)



Mammals I Encountered (Elk detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (7 x 8.5 cm)





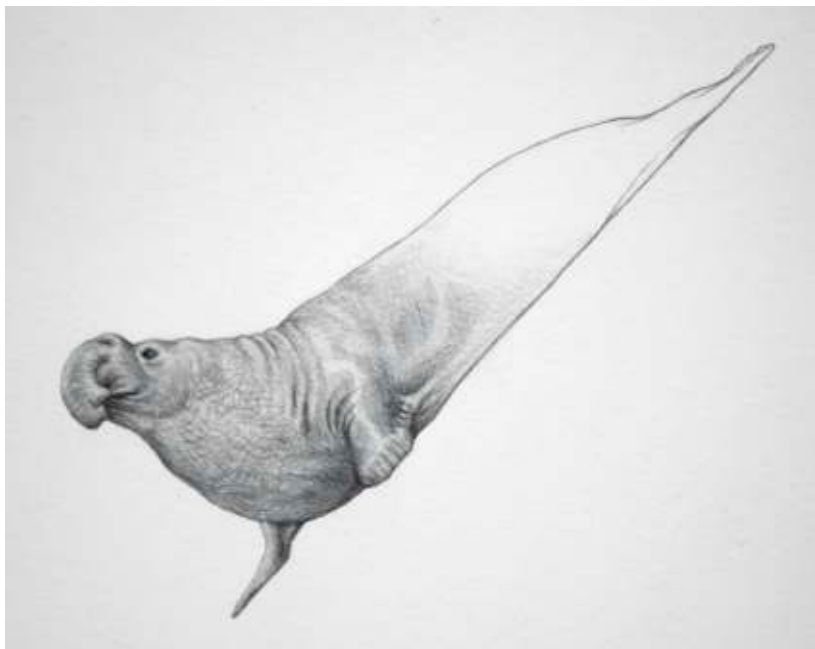
Mammals I Encountered (Kangaroo Rat detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (4 x 6 cm)



Mammals I Encountered (Grizzly Bear detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (5 x 6 cm)



Mammals I Encountered (Elephant Seal detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (4.5 x 10.5 cm)



Mammals I Encountered (Sea Lion detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (6 x 7 cm)





Mammals I Encountered (Prairie Dog detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (5 x 3.5 cm)



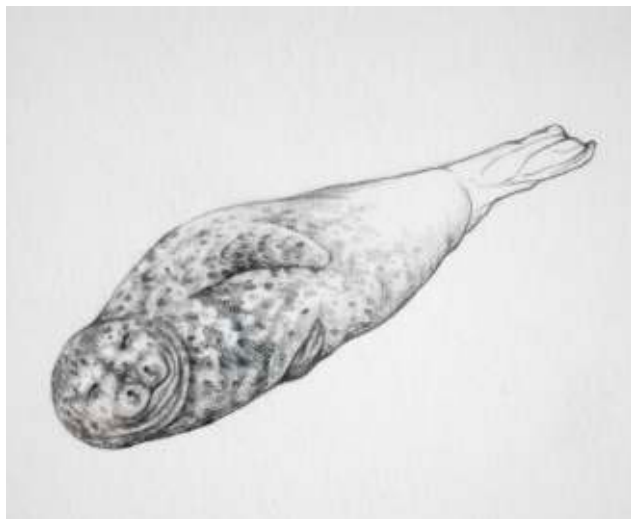
Mammals I Encountered (Raccoon detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (4.5 x 6 cm)



Mammals I Encountered (Sea Otter detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (5 x 6 cm)



Mammals I Encountered (Seal detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (7.5 x 7.5 cm)





Mammals I Encountered (Black Squirrel detail)  
Coloured pencil on paper (4 x 5 cm)





## ROSE SANDERSON

Born Winchester, England 1980

### **Art Education**

2000-2003 - The University of the West of England, Bristol  
B.A. (HONS). Illustration

1998-1999 - Weymouth College, Weymouth  
Foundation Studies in Art and Design

1996-1998 - Weymouth College, Weymouth  
Visual Arts Diploma (4x A-levels; Art and Design, Photography, 2-D Graphic Design and History of Art)

### **Exhibited Galleries**

Thinkspace Gallery, LA ♦ LA Flagship, LA ♦ Above Second Gallery, Hong Kong ♦  
The Mall Galleries, London ♦ Stolen Space, London ♦ The Conningsby Gallery,  
London ♦ Frameless Gallery, London ♦ Wills Art, London ♦ Bo-Lee Gallery, London/  
Bath ♦ The RWA, Bristol ♦ The City Museum and Art Gallery, Bristol ♦ Innocent  
Fine Art, Bristol ♦ The Cube Gallery, Bristol ♦ The Grant Bradley Gallery, Bristol ♦  
The Knifesmith gallery, Bristol ♦ Paintworks, Bristol ♦ The Tobacco Factory, Bristol  
♦ Centre Space, Bristol ♦ St Georges, Bristol ♦ The Here gallery, Bristol ♦ Gallery  
room212, Bristol ♦ The Create Centre, Bristol ♦ Green Park Station, Bath ♦ The  
Octagon Chapel, Bath ♦ The Cube3 gallery, Plymouth ♦ Tunbridge Wells Museum  
& Art Gallery, Tunbridge Wells ♦ Bradford Museum, Ilkley



### **Artist Residencies**

Headbones Gallery. Vernon, British Columbia, Canada  
Elsewhere Studios. Paonia, Colorado, USA

### **Exhibited Art Fairs**

AAF Melbourne, Singapore, Hong Kong, New York, Amsterdam, Brussels, Glasgow, London Hamstead & London Battersea ♦ Art London ♦ London Art Fair ♦ Bloomsbury Art fair ♦ Palace Art Fair ♦ Brighton Art Fair ♦ Stroke Art Fair (Munich, Germany)

### **Art Features/ Reviews/ Interviews**

Hi-Fructose, English Muse, Dazed and Confused, Lost at E-minor, Twenty-6, Flavorwire, Colossal Art and Design, Daily DuJour, Design Week, Marie- Claire, Red Magazine, Area Magazine, RWA Magazine, Venue magazine, Clifton Life, Bath Life, Country Calling, LA Confidential.

### **Awards**

Winner of The ING Discerning Eye 'West Country Regional Prize 2010'.

### **Gallery Representation**

Coates & Scarry (Worldwide)  
Antlers Gallery (Bristol)

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