

Bird Alchemy:

Reflection, Refraction, and the Colors Between

Whether it be the study of the surface of a figure, or the lines, colors and compositions appearing subtly beneath, each is an integral part of Heather Lancaster's practice of observation. In her latest body of work, it is this commitment to seeing which led to the study and representation of the hues created by light, pigment and feather structure.

Reflection, refraction, and caratinoids can affect the colors of birds seen in the Carolina Lowcountry. Lancaster experiments with the spectrum of tones and values created by these factors, especially those most pronounced to her eyes.

It is her hope that as we are drawn to the beauty of this range of color, a deeper connection to the birds themselves is cultivated, as well as a greater appreciation of the fragile environments in which they live.