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El Camino College Art Gallery to Present James Griffith: (R)evolution, Reflecting on Charles Darwin

The El Camino College Art Gallery will present “James Griffith: (R)evolution, Reflecting on Charles Darwin” March 3 through April 3, with an opening reception scheduled for 7-9 p.m. March 6, and a gallery walk-through at 1 p.m. March 11. The El Camino College Art Gallery is located on campus, 16007 Crenshaw Boulevard, near Torrance.

In this show, artist James Griffith strives to address the essential questions that Charles Darwin asked: Who are we? How did we get here? Where are we going? Griffith’s sepia-tone paintings intentionally parallel early photography as well as represent his vision of the primordial origins of life. In these panels with exquisitely rendered animals, mutating from species to species, playing tug-o-war between evolution and extinction, the artist portrays his fascination with Darwin’s Theory of Natural Selection, the big idea that shook the very foundation of the Victorian world. This (R)evolution drives the substance and the method in which he works. Griffith’s empathetic view of animals as our equals (or better) is described in paintings that intrinsically fluctuate between abstraction and naturalistic representation, work that insists man is not separate from nature at all, but rather, shares a mutual inheritance of physicality, vulnerability and constant change.

(R)evolution gathers together a body of astonishing works, ranging in media from painting and drawing to multi-media and mixed media installations where James Griffith’s consummate abilities as both artist and designer are matched by his own passion to honor the whole fabric of life on Earth and to understand the forces that have made us who we are.

College Art Gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays and from noon to 8 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call curator Susanna Meiers at 310-660-3010. Admission to the El Camino College Art Gallery and gallery events is free. On-campus parking is \$3.

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