

Eric & Morgan Grasham

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Artist Statement

This collaborative work was made in response to our residency in west Texas, where we worked as a ceramicist and a taxidermist. Both of us were making objects which were meant to recall and maintain personal narratives that interpreted relationships to our environment.

The ceramic forms contain landscapes created by combining dozens of colored clay bodies, representing the development of habitats into domesticated spaces. The forms are influenced by ornamental designs which throughout history have idealized, represented, and replaced biodiversity in constructed human spaces. Taxidermy functions in much the same way. The combination of media underlines this function in both, and asks us to consider how our desire for communion with wildlife often produces complicated and unpredictable outcomes.