

T _ E _ A N I M A L ! _ A Q U E E R _ E _ O L O _ Y

My practice has always revolved around the animal. The longer I work with individual non-human animals and think about the animal as a concept within frameworks of critical animal studies, the less I know about "the animal." I operate from the position that questions of animality are not binary but rather a tangle of ecologies and richly complicated identities framed by culture. Examining cultural representations of human and non-human animals is informative for understanding how beings collide within cultural structures. The structures I look at or work within include spaces of contemporary farming, sanctuaries, biological texts, fashion systems, olfactory histories of extraction, and contemporary hunting cultures. Creating webs of references to examine the concept of the animal is a way for me to think through being as a relational, corporeal network. These queer ecologies are a mechanism to imagine flourishing beyond normative categories and taxonomies. Through an embrace of queer ecologies, I aim to enact multi-species kinship beyond supremacy; to invite epistemological and cultural mutation(s) of the animal.

D R O S E N