

Ghost Stories from the Forest

April 19-29, 2021

GALLERY 102 | WASHINGTON, DC
JAMILLE WALLICK SOLO EXHIBITION



Ghost Stories from the Forest

Jamille Wallick
MFA Thesis Show
Spring 2021
April 19-29, 2021

Gallery 102

Corcoran School of the Arts and Design

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Actions ripple edgelessly from humans to our immediate environment and then from our particular ecosystem outward, and the effects can be read through the passing of time and observing change, in personal life and in ecological and social communities.

To make the sculptures and compositions in *Ghost Stories from the Forest* I used wood, grass, and human detritus from ghost forests along the Atlantic coast in Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina as well as trash and recycling that comes from my own daily household consumption and role a consumerist lifestyle.

As a coastal forest's edge becomes saturated with encroaching salt water, the trees begin to die, causing stands of bleached, salinated ghost trees. Rising seas resulting from climate change cause this salt water intrusion, particularly in places where the rivers meet the ocean. As parts of the forest are dying, marshes are flooding and are forced to migrate inland, and the ghost forests become spaces between life and death.

As a child I learned ecosystems in a tidy form--a forest, a marsh, an ocean--we didn't learn of the places where these systems overlap and become one another, but I grew up in the middle of North Carolina, so my sensory experience taught me that ecosystems blur gently into one another: driving east from my birthplace the pines melt into the marshes and then into the sea, driving west, the lowlands give way to rock outcrops and rolling hills and finally the ancient Appalachian Mountains.

There are no tidy lines between forest and marsh, and there are no words for the middle places, but there they are, revealing their *betweenness*, and inviting me to become a student of the interconnectedness of the world around me.

About Jamille Wallick

Jamille Wallick is a visual and performance artist that makes art with hope of encouraging imaginative community strengthening. She uses materials including video, photography, dance, watercolor, drawing, and paper-making as well as event organization, collaboration, teaching, and space-making. She has a BA in Dance Studies and Anthropology as well as a Masters of Education in New Media and is a candidate for the M.F.A in Studio Arts at the George Washington University.



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