



ASC
The Arts & Science Center for Southeast Arkansas
ASC701.ORG

MIDST

ARTWORK BY NICK HOBBS

November 10, 2022 - February 4, 2023



Nick Hobbs, *Terminator (Horizon)*, Graphite on paper, 22" x 22"

Artist Statement

Nick Hobbs

These drawings are snapshots (fragments, evidence) of an attempt to reconcile two scales. First, the scale of the everyday, the earthly, the personal, and the human. That which is familiar and specific to personal experience, especially those qualities that are most taken for granted. Second, the scale of deep time and the cosmological. That which exists, all or in part, beyond the boundaries of intuition. I understand these scales to be irreconcilable, making this practice ultimately futile from the perspective of arriving at a definite conclusion. Instead, I approach it as an archaeologist, inferring what I can from the in-situ artifacts of culture, experience, memory, intimacy, and history. This fossil record is incomplete and often misleading, but a great deal of knowledge can be extrapolated from such sparse evidence.

My drawing process begins with photographs foraged from scientific archives, the personal archive of my own photographs, and from the cultural archive of the internet. Images from these varied sources are interwoven in an alchemic dance of familiarity and ambiguity to question the possibility of knowing at a distance. I want to glimpse what lies just beyond the barrier between air and void. Between you and me. Between inside and outside. My drawings are quiet windows into the overwhelming cosmological context. They are probes ill equipped for what they hope to find. They are touch and sight and time—the stuff of consciousness. Crystallized in carbon—the stuff of life. That is all they will ever be.

Exhibition List

Betelgeuse

Graphite on paper

1" x 1"

Framed Size: 8.25" x 8.25" x 1.5"

Constellation (SpaceX)

Graphite on paper

8" x 10.25"

Framed Size: 16" x 13.5" x 1.5"

Contact

Graphite on paper

5.5" x 7"

Framed Size: 14" x 16" x 1.5"

Cretaceous

Graphite on paper

3" x 4.5"

Framed Size: 13.5" x 16" x 1.5"

Determinism

Graphite on paper

7" x 8.5"

Framed Size: 13.5" x 16" x 1.5"

Earthling

Graphite on paper

5 x 5"

Framed Size: 13.25" x 13.5" x 1.25"

Earthshine

Graphite on paper

10.25" x 8"

Framed Size: 16" x 13.5" x 1.5"

East / West

Graphite on paper

5" x 7"

Framed Size: 9.5" x 20.75" x 1.5"

Echo

Graphite on paper

4" x 3.5"

Framed Size: 11.75" x 11.5" x 1.25"

Holocene

Graphite on paper

3" x 4.5"

Framed Size: 13.5" x 16" x 1.5"

Vega

Graphite on paper

1" x 1"

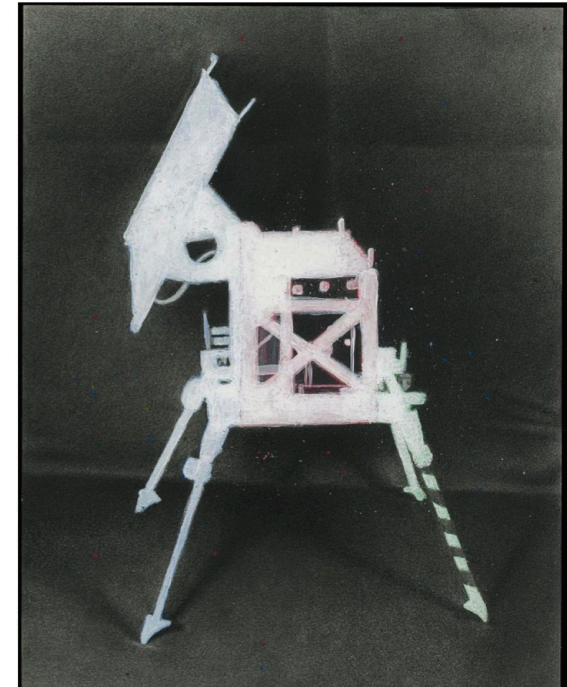
Framed Size: 8.25" x 8.25" x 1.5"

Terminator (Horizon)

Graphite on paper

22" x 22"

Framed Size: 25.5" x 25.5" x 1.5"



Nick Hobbs, *Earthshine*, Graphite on paper, 10.25" x 8"

The Past

Graphite on paper

4.5 x 6.25 in

Framed Size: 13.5 x 16 x 1.5 in

Tucson Gem and Mineral Show

Graphite on paper

2.5 x 3.5 in

Framed Size: 15 x 15 x 1.5 in

Exhibition List Continued



Nick Hobbs, *Earthshine*, Graphite on paper, 10.25" x 8"

Hooked

Graphite on paper

5" x 5"

Framed Size: 10" x 10" x 1.5"

Hooked (again)

Graphite on paper

5" x 5"

Framed Size: 10" x 10" x 1.5"

Implement

Graphite and guoache on paper

10.25" x 8"

Framed Size: 16" x 13.5" x 1.5"

Interaction

Graphite on paper

2" x 2"

Framed Size: 9.25" x 9.25" x 1.5"

Interference

Graphite on paper

4" x 4"

Framed Size: 9.25" x 9.25" x 1.5"

Mimas

Graphite on paper

6.5" x 6.5"

Framed Size: 13.25" x 13.5" x 1.25"

Oligocene

Graphite on paper

4" x 7"

Framed Size: 13.5" x 16" x 1.5"

Prominence

Graphite on paper

4.75" x 5.25"

Framed Size: 10" x 10" x 1.5"

Prospect (Flywire)

Graphite on paper

5" x 4"

Framed Size: 14.5" x 14.5" x 1.5"

Riddle writ in vapor

Graphite on paper

3.5" x 7"

Framed Size: 15.5" x 12.5"



Nick Hobbs, *Cretaceous*, Graphite on paper, 3" x 4.5"

Curator Statement

MIDST, a collection of intriguing drawings by artist Nick Hobbs, attempts to connect and understand the familiarities of the everyday earthly experiences of humanity with the metaphysical, and the seemingly limitless expanse of space and time. Hobbs has taken a scientific approach to constructing the compositions and plays with the viewers common understandings of photography and documentation, while asking questions about the mysteries of consciousness and the connections between all we know and all may never know, but are compelled to discover, however futile that may be.

Kevin Haynie, ASC Curator

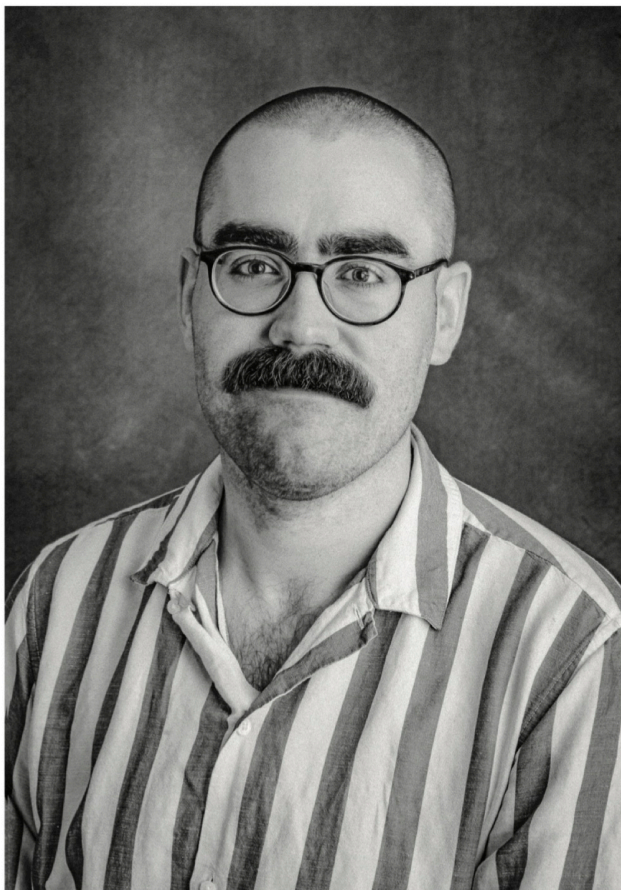


Nick Hobbs, East / West, Graphite on paper, 5" x 7"





Nick Hobbs, *Determinism*, Graphite on paper, 7" x 8.5"



Nick Hobbs

Nick Hobbs was born in Louisiana and is currently an M.F.A. candidate at the University of Arkansas. Recently, he's been making graphite drawings and animations. He also spends a lot of time looking at the sky, and it influences everything he does.

More info at nickhobbs.art



The Arts & Science Center has three aspects of collecting and exhibition: art of the Delta, art by Arkansas artists, and art by African American artists.

ASC is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, a distinction held by fewer than 4% of museums in the United States.

Post-reception stargazing party is hosted in partnership with the Central Arkansas Astronomical Association.

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