EDGED OUT

ORIGINAL ARTWORKS BY

Ashley Cecil

artist & illustrator

www.ashleycecil.com

646.812.2016
ashley@ashleycecil.com
@ashleycecil

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FRICK ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER, PITTSBURGH, PA
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Humans have played an enormous part in shaping nature. Artist Ashley Cecil has spent years depicting that impact in her paintings of flora and fauna marred by our influence. These artworks by Cecil specifically focus on the vulnerable state of amphibians, a modern canary in the coal mine offering us a prophetic glance at what lies ahead for all inhabitants of an ailing environment.

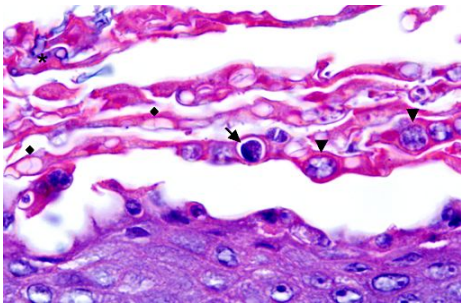
These paintings and sculptures are visual translations of research conducted by the Richards-Zawacki Herpetology Lab at the University of Pittsburgh, which studies many aspects of the ecology, evolutionary biology and conservation of amphibians. During her six-month artist residency at the lab, Cecil immersed herself in scientific topics represented in this body of work, such as habitat loss, disease and conservation methods.

Edged Out
40”x40” acrylic and oil on canvas
$5,600

Deforestation for agriculture

Amphibians can only thrive where they have a home. Our growing demand for agriculture is one of the many causes of deforestation, which destroys the habitats and ecosystems amphibians rely on.

DISEASED
40"x40" acrylic and oil on canvas
$5,600

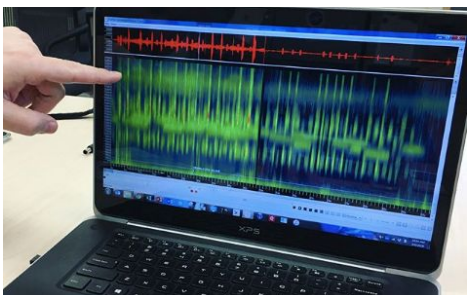


Cross section of skin infected with chytrid

Scientists at the Richards-Zawacki Lab extensively study a disease called chytridiomycosis, or chytrid for short. Caused by a fungus, this fast-spreading disease is fatal to a staggering number of amphibian species worldwide, in some cases causing extinction. In the herpetology lab, an image of a tissue sample of an infected frog inspired this visual interpretation of the impact of the disease on one particularly striking species, the Panamanian golden frog.

DISEASED (STUDY)
12"x12" acrylic and oil on board
$750 (SOLD)

Local Chorus
24"x36" acrylic and oil on canvas
$3,200 (SOLD)



Scientists at the Richards-Zawacki Lab use frog calls to engage the public in research. As part of the national citizen science program FrogWatch, individuals and families are trained to identify local frog species by their auditory calls and report their findings to a scientific database. Here, the artist has rendered spectrograms (images of sound) of the calls of three local species - spring peepers, wood frogs and northern leopard frogs.

Eastern Newts

12”x20” oxidized corten steel (edition of three)

$960

This delicate design of an amphibian native to Pennsylvania is captured in weathered steel. Fitting for both indoor and outdoor display, the sculpture acquired its natural rust finish while being exposed to the elements in Pittsburgh’s beloved Frick Park, surrounded by the species depicted in the design.

Northern Leopard Frogs

12”x20” oxidized corten steel (edition of three)

$960 (2 of 3 SOLD)

This delicate design of an amphibian native to Pennsylvania is captured in weathered steel. Fitting for both indoor and outdoor display, the sculpture acquired its natural rust finish while being exposed to the elements in Pittsburgh’s beloved Frick Park, surrounded by the species depicted in the design.

Spring Peepers

12”x20” oxidized corten steel (edition of three)

$960 (1 of 3 SOLD)

This delicate design of an amphibian native to Pennsylvania is captured in weathered steel. Fitting for both indoor and outdoor display, the sculpture acquired its natural rust finish while being exposed to the elements in Pittsburgh’s beloved Frick Park, surrounded by the species depicted in the design.

Last Call

The following series of nine mixed media paintings on laser cut paper are mounted on matboard and framed (16”x20”) as shown above.

The plight of many amphibian species is so dire that they now only exist in artificial enclosures in zoos and conservation facilities - some less fortunate species are already extinct. This species has been edged out due to threats such as habitat loss and disease. Scientists at the Richards-Zawacki Lab are aiding in conservation efforts by developing new methods to improve the health of captive frogs and contributing to their reintroduction back into the wild.

Last Call: Burrowes' Giant Glass Frog (Critically Endangered)
16”x20” mixed media on laser cut paper (framed - see page 9)
$1,450
The plight of many amphibian species is so dire that they now only exist in artificial enclosures in zoos and conservation facilities - some less fortunate species are already extinct. This species has been edged out due to threats such as habitat loss and disease. Scientists at the Richards-Zawacki Lab are aiding in conservation efforts by developing new methods to improve the health of captive frogs and contributing to their reintroduction back into the wild.

LAST CALL: GOLDEN TOAD (EXTINCT)

16”x20” mixed media on laser cut paper (framed - see page 9)

$1,450

The plight of many amphibian species is so dire that they now only exist in artificial enclosures in zoos and conservation facilities - some less fortunate species are already extinct. This species has been edged out due to threats such as habitat loss and disease. Scientists at the Richards-Zawacki Lab are aiding in conservation efforts by developing new methods to improve the health of captive frogs and contributing to their reintroduction back into the wild.

Last Call: Golden Toads (Extinct)
16”x20” mixed media on laser cut paper (framed - see page 9)
$1,450
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Last Call: Kihansi Spray Toad (Extinct in the Wild)
16”x20” mixed media on laser cut paper (framed - see page 9)
$1,450
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Last Call: Lehmann's Poison Frog (Critically Endangered)
16”x20” mixed media on laser cut paper (framed - see page 9)
$1,450
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Last Call: Panamanian Golden Frog (Critically Endangered)
16”x20” mixed media on laser cut paper (framed - see page 9)
$1,450
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LAST CALL: QUITO STUBFOOT TOAD (EXTINCT)
16”x20” mixed media on laser cut paper (framed - see page 9)
$1,450
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Last Call: Southern Corroboree Frog (Critically Endangered)
16”x20” mixed media on laser cut paper (framed - see page 9)
$1,450
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Last Call: Yapacana's Little Red Frog (Critically Endangered)
16"x20" mixed media on laser cut paper (framed - see page 9)
$1,450
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LAST CALL
Woven wallpaper
$121.50/standard 2'x12' roll (custom lengths available)

About the Artist

Pittsburgh-based artist Ashley Cecil specializes in paintings of flora and fauna that illustrate the interconnectedness of the natural world and its inhabitants. Her love affair with all things organic and wild blossomed as the result of studying landscapes with accomplished painters in London while earning her master's degree at the Sotheby's Institute of Art, immersing herself in vast collections of nature-inspired textile patterns in European museums, painting from live observation at conservation institutions including the National Aviary, and collaborating with scientists to make dense research visually relatable to a broad audience.

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