

# BALANCE & IMBALANCE

A CELEBRATION OF NATURE  
AND A CALL TO ACTION



## CLIMATE CHANGE

21" x 26", driftwood, wire, theater gel

"Climate Change" illustrates greenhouse gases heating the ocean, causing water to evaporate and rise into the atmosphere. The warming of the Earth is causing extreme weather patterns and catastrophic natural occurrences like fire, drought, and flooding.

WWW.MARNIESINCLAIR.NET

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“Balance & Imbalance” is the theme of Marnie Sinclair’s collection of sculptures that illustrate the exquisite balance of nature and the jarring imbalance in the environment caused by man. Sinclair is both inspired and driven by the urgency of climate change and the threat it poses to the Earth.

Sinclair says, “Nature is full of surprises and never fails to leave the viewer in awe from witnessing the complexity and intelligence that exists within each species as it maintains its balance in our global ecosystems. It is heartbreaking to witness the complete devastation created by our species as we power our way to control over our environment.”

The sculptures are created from wire, driftwood, theater gels, and found objects to show plants and animals in balance and out of balance. Sinclair says, “These sculptures, with their accompanying stories, speak to the three rules of survival that help to insure the continuing health of each species: adaptation, cooperation, and plant intelligence.”

Sinclair is also a professional videographer and produced “Nature’s Spin Through Art.” The video uses a series of Sinclair’s abstract sculptures to illustrate the complex story of climate change. She interviews three scientists prominent in the field of climate change: Bill McKibben, founder of 350.org, George Woodwell, founder of the Woods Hole Research Center, and Jerry Sullivan, a retired NOAA physicist. The combination of her visual art with the sobering observations delivered by these scientists communicates the urgency to address climate change to save the Earth for all of its inhabitants. The video is available on YouTube.

Marnie Sinclair hopes that “Balance & Imbalance” resonates with you, inspiring you to love and protect the Earth, our only home.

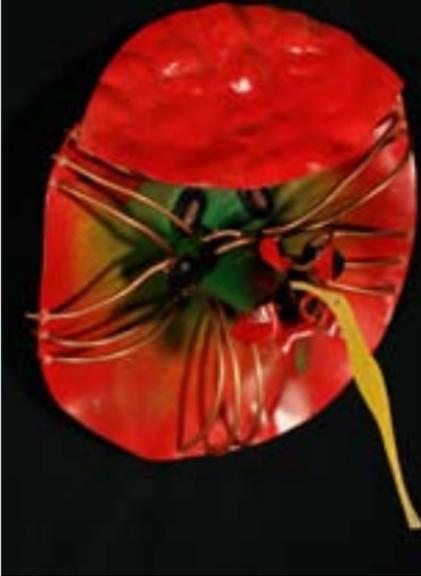
## KUDU & ACACIA

12" x 18"; mixed media

The acacia tree protects itself from overgrazing by kudu antelopes by increasing the level of tannin in its leaves. Some of the antelopes are poisoned, reducing the impact on the tree. When the tree senses that the grazing is again at a sustainable level, it drops the level of tannins so the leaves are no longer poisonous.



BALANCE



## ANGEL'S MUSE

12" x 8"; mixed media

Angel's Trumpet is a flowering South American plant, and many of its parts are highly toxic. The sword-billed hummingbird is the only pollinator that has adapted to this plant. The bird developed an extra-long beak to safely feed on the nectar deep inside the plant.

## AIR AND ANT

44" x 17" x 5"; mixed media

Some tropical plants provide shelter for ants. Ants create smooth chambers inside the hollow stems or leaves of the plant, and rough exterior chambers that capture the ants' waste. The plant gains nutrients from the ant waste and the ants receive a safe home – a remarkable example of interspecies cooperation.



BALANCE



PITCHER & BAT  
24" x 9 ¾" x 5 ¾";  
mixed media

A carnivorous pitcher plant in Borneo attracts bats by vibrating. The bat responds to the acoustic welcome, and finds a safe place to roost that is cool and free of parasites. The plant receives nutrients from the bat's droppings. The pitcher plant is unusual in that it attracts the bats for nutrients rather than for pollination.

FIR AND FUNGUS  
19" x 17" x 17"; mixed media

The mighty Douglas firs of the Pacific Northwest make up a vast dense forest. Each tree is dependent on the roots of a fungus to receive nutrients and connect to other trees of the same species. A perfect partnership has evolved because the fungus has the ability

to process the CO<sub>2</sub> and sugar produced by the fir tree to produce nutrients that feed the tree and its neighboring fir trees. The connective web of roots from the fungus that unites and nourishes the trees is enormous and is considered one of the biggest living organisms on Earth.

BALANCE



**IMBALANCE**



**ACIDIFICATION**  
72" x 24"; mixed media

The increase in CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere has caused acidification of the oceans, which now threatens the development of the shells of shellfish and is killing coral reefs worldwide. Three krill, the bottom of the food chain, whose shells are in various stages of disintegration, are featured under the sweeping sheets of CO<sub>2</sub>.

**NUDGE**  
5' x 4' 10"; mixed media

The eye of a whale, caught in the tangles of a driftnet that pollutes the open ocean, calls out to the viewer. In one real-life rescue, an entangled whale was rescued by four divers. Once free, the whale gently nudged each diver in an eloquent thank-you. It was a moment of magic, offering hope for the power of man to restore balance in nature.

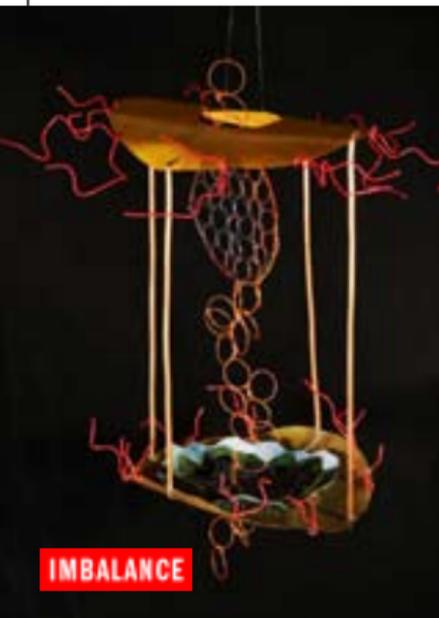
**IMBALANCE**



**TUNDRA METHANE**  
22" x 15"; mixed media

The arctic permafrost on shore and under the sea is packed with methane. CO<sub>2</sub> and methane hold in the heat of the sun instead of releasing it to space. This increased warmth is melting the permafrost, which will then release huge quantities of methane, accelerating the warming of the planet even more.

**IMBALANCE**



## BALANCE



WILD TOBACCO  
17" x 21"; paper  
collage

The wild tobacco plant protects itself in several remarkable ways. Its leaves contain nicotine, poisonous to all its predators except the hornworm caterpillar. This caterpillar attracts the plant's only pollinator: the nocturnal hawk moth. If the

moth's larvae threaten the plant, it changes its chemistry and becomes a plant that only attracts hummingbirds in the daytime. This amazing transformation from a nocturnal to a daytime plant happens in just 8 days.

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### THE ARTIST

*I have always used  
the creative process to  
sustain my balance.*

-- Marnie Sinclair

Marnie Sinclair is a process artist. Raised in the tropics with its lush flora and fauna, then living and working on Martha's Vineyard with its pristine beaches and wildlife, and now making her home on the rugged coast of Maine, Sinclair expresses her awe of the natural world through her art. She works in different mediums, and in 2- or 3-dimensions, but sculpture is her preferred choice.



To see more of Marnie's work, or to contact her, go to: [www.marniesinclair.net](http://www.marniesinclair.net)

To view Marnie's video, "Nature's Spin Through Art" go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3cin1ptKguA>