Environmentalism

and Art

Apis mellifera

Overview:

What I did, and how I did it

Relationship to the Millrace

Why art is just as important as science

What is a screen print?





4-layer *Sialis sp.*



1-layer *Pandion haliaetus*



3-layer *Salticus scenicus*



4-layer *Bombus terrestris*

What does this have to do with the Millrace?

Easy answer: All prints are of species observed by students during the term (almost)

Long answer: The Millrace is not just a nasty ditch filled with trash, it is a home for a huge variety of species that depend on its existence in order to continue thriving. The biodiversity present here affects surrounding ecosystems, providing food in a complex chain of relationships that promote overall ecological health of the area. Because most people don't currently see it as such, this artwork was made to provide straightforward, and aesthetically pleasing (I hope) information regarding species that call the Millrace home, or rely on it indirectly. While the fate of the Millrace is currently unknown, my hope is that people will start seeing it as an *environment* that can be restored and protected, and not just a run-down city feature.

tl;dr: This mess is a place.



3-layer Solenopsis invicta



Why is art important to environmentalism?

Because most people either don't want to, or can't read "Colony performance and immunocompetence of a social insect, *Bombus terrestris*, in poor and variable environments (Schmid-Hempel, 1998)" but everyone wants to Save The Bees.

Art makes people both think and feel.

4-layer *Camassia leichtlinii* Thank you for sitting through this. Please feel free to take a print.