



THE MARC HARRIS WILDLIFE & CONSERVATION PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

AT

THE RITZ-CARLTON GOLF RESORT, NAPLES

Welcome to the Marc Harris Wildlife & Conservation Photography Exhibition at the Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples. This inspirational location was chosen by the artist to share a message of wildlife habitat conservation and global environmental responsibility.

The exhibition features wildlife endangered by habitat loss and diminished sustainable water resources throughout Florida. The goal of Marc Harris Wildlife is to educate, create awareness, and affect change.

“When I document an existing environment, I use these photographs of nature and wildlife to tell a wider story. I ask you to look beyond the obvious and look into the eyes or behavior of an animal or image and imagine what it would be like live in their universe. Bring their surrounding world into focus with yours,” says Marc.

As stated by Alison Drake, Marc Harris Wildlife’s Chief Curator, “Seeing and feeling the emotion that this habitat or animal evokes is so much more powerful than just reading or hearing about it. Conservation photography allows you, the viewer to engage in the artwork and have an emotional relationship with that photograph. This connection will remain with you forever.”

Each photograph can take months and sometimes years to create, with Marc revisiting the same location over and over to capture a moment that tells the desired story. Watching the changes that take place during this process is rewarding and at times heartbreaking. Conservation photography offers a visual narrative and compelling evidence for the need to protect the land and the wildlife that exist on our planet.

As you absorb the photography throughout the exhibition gallery, please remember that it has never been more important for all of us who value nature, wild birds, and their habitats and ecosystems to advocate for conservation efforts. Join Marc Harris Wildlife and Ritz-Carlton Tiburón to support responsible strategies for protecting and preserving natural resources.

All imagery is available to purchase. Please contact Alison Drake at Marc Harris Wildlife by phone or email to inquire about various mediums (metals, museum quality prints) and preferred size options. Shipping quotes for both inside and outside the U.S. are available.

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Twilight

Great Blue Heron (30 x 50 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$5,580**

Great Blue Heron flying through The Florida Everglades under a mangrove canopy in the early dawn of nautical twilight when the sun is 6 to 12 degrees below the horizon. With the rising sun throwing a beam of light on the marshy water below, the majestic heron flew right through the cast of light and the sun's angle highlighted his head while the reflection illuminated parts of legs and feathers. A truly magical moment that I will never be able to duplicate in nature.

Fact: Great Blue Herons live in both freshwater and saltwater habitats. Even though their primary food is fish, this majestic bird will eat nearly anything within striking distance, including mammals, reptiles and other birds.

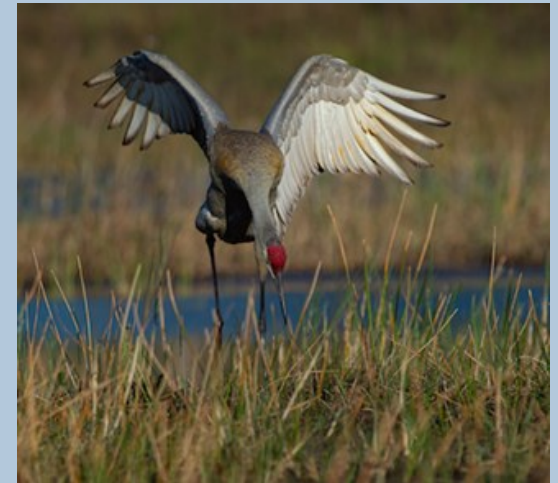
The Dance

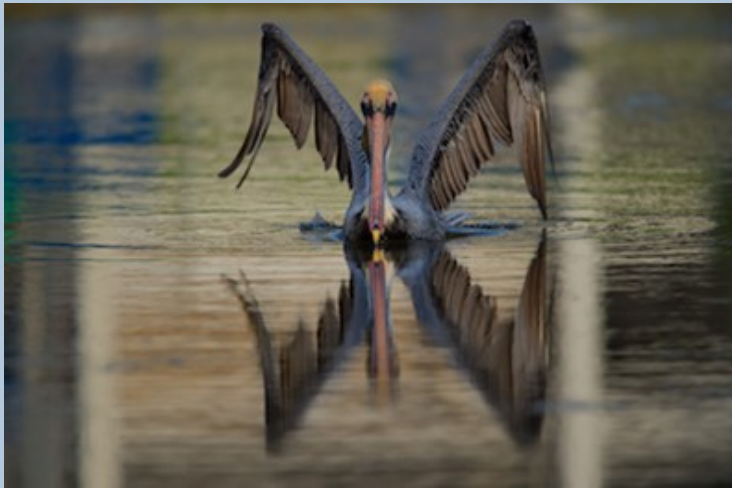
Sandhill Crane (28 x 34 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$3,250**

Sandhill Cranes are large birds that live in marshes and prairies across North America and the southeastern United States. Sandhills are famous for their dancing skills. During courtship they stretch their wings, bob their heads, leap into the air with lively elegant moves, and bow. This crane was spotted in the historic western portion of the Florida Everglades dancing elaborately with two other sandhill cranes. As I followed behind on foot, in utter amazement, hiding behind bushes and clumps of trees I caught this special spellbinding moment, a bow. It wasn't long after this that one of the other two cranes departed the group, spread its wings and flew out of sight. The mating ritual continued with the pairing off of two magnificent Sandhill Cranes. As they danced out of sight I knew I had just witnessed one of nature's greatest displays.

I return to this area yearly during mating season where I have documented pairs of sandhill cranes, their incubation period, relationship behaviors, hatching of their colts, and the treacherous days and months that follow as the parents prepare the young for survival in the wild.

Fact: The future of Sandhill Cranes is dependent upon the fate of their habitat. Without the conservation of wetlands and woodlands, they are at risk of becoming threatened or endangered.





Maestro

Brown Pelican (30 x 40 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$5,100**

The Brown Pelican is a comical seabird that spends most of its time on or near the ocean. Unlike other pelican species who work in flocks to corral their prey, the Brown Pelican is known for its aerobic dive headfirst into the water from heights as high as 50 to 65 feet. Groups of Brown Pelicans fly low, just above the surf in single file, gliding in unison. They are graceful and masterful fliers.

Fact: A pelican's throat pouch holds more than its stomach does. A pelican swallows fish whole after draining the water from its pouch.

Radioactive

Reddish Egret White Morph (24 x 36 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$3,875**

Although recognized as one species, Reddish Egrets are either white form or dark form for life. While this breed is notable for its two color morphs, one undeniable trait is how they both draw attention in regard to their feeding habits by running, hopping, spinning and staggering sideways in pursuit of fish. How reddish egrets combine these behaviors together, including the open wing, underwing and double wing feeding, make them a crazy and fun spectacle to watch in bewilderment.

Fact: The Reddish Egret is one of the rarest egrets in North America. Decimated by plume hunters in the 19th century, their populations never fully recovered. This species is dependent upon coastal habitats for hunting and breeding. Red tide and algae blooms in Florida have put this rare bird at risk.





Palmetto Prince

Florida Green Anole (20 x 30 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$2,575**

The Green Anole is an attractive lizard that reaches a length of 8 inches and has the ability to change color from bright green to brown within a few seconds. It is the only anole species native to the United States. When the anole bobs his head and repeatedly flashes his bright red throat pouch, he is by two counts: trying to attract a female, and letting other males know that this is his territory. And, he will defend his territory aggressively. It is always so nice to see a native green anole lizard in southern Florida amidst all the non-native anoles and iguanas.

Fact: The green anole has movable eyelids and its eyes move individually, independent from each other. It is a carnivore and its diet consists of spiders, flies, crickets, moths, ants, termites and worms. The green anole hunts only prey that is moving.

Arty Gator

American Alligator (20 x 30 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$2,150**

Commonly known as a gator, these predators reside almost exclusively in the freshwater rivers, lakes, swamps and marshes of Florida and Louisiana. American Alligators are the largest reptiles in the United States and males can grow to be more than 12 feet in length. Alligators are an important part of the Everglades ecosystem. Female alligators build a nest hole where water remains all year long except during severe droughts. When dry season comes and water dries up in parts of the Everglades, the water in alligator holes becomes a refuge for a variety of wildlife.

Fact: Most alligator attacks on humans are attributed to the illegal feeding of gators which makes them bolder, less afraid of humans, and more likely to attack instead of flee. It is illegal to feed alligators as well as all other wildlife.



In Velvet

White-tailed Deer (20 x 30 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$2,150**

Florida deer are considerably smaller than deer in most other states in North America. Their smaller body size uses less energy to regulate body temperature so at the same time, enhances their survival. White-tailed deer are herbivores and graze mostly on available plant foods including leaves, twigs, shoots, flowers and fruits of trees, acorns, mushrooms and aquatic plants. In Florida, deer consume about 3% of their body weight each day, 2.5 - 4 pounds. Most deer habitats are along forest edges, in woodland oak hammocks, grasslands and agricultural pastures.

Fact: In the Florida wild, white-tails are preyed upon by bobcats, coyotes and the Florida Panther. They use speed and agility to outrun predators sprinting up to 30 miles per hour and leaping as high as 10 feet and as far as 30 feet in a single bound.



He Went That Way

Green Heron (20 x 30 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$2,575**

Green Herons are small, compact, yet stocky herons with a dagger like bill and a thick neck. They are solitary birds and mating pairs often nest alone. They like living around small ponds or heavily vegetated areas and are especially fond of lily pad covered marshes lined with trees and shrubs. Watching them hop from pad to pad as they forage and stand still to investigate can go on for hours. Their tool-wielding, clever hunting skills put the green heron in exclusive company with few other birds. The green heron will sometimes catch an insect, or pick up a twig, leaf or feather and drop this bait on the surface of the water to lure fish within striking distance.

Fact: Loss of habitat is the greatest threat to Green Herons as well as the cleaning-up of vegetation around ponds, rivers and lakes. When pesticides are used they are a significant source of water pollution, affecting the environment and wildlife populations.

King of the Marsh

Great Blue Heron (16 x 24 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$1,550**

The Great Blue Heron is the largest heron in North America. They stand 4.5 feet tall and live in both fresh water and salt water habitats. They often breed in isolated swamps or islands, and near lakes and ponds bordered by forests. They love to make themselves obvious and stake claim at a display location to attract attention. Pairs are mostly monogamous during a season but they choose new partners each year. These beautiful birds can be seen usually alone, foraging for food.

Fact: Even though Great Blue Herons appear to be big birds, they weigh only 5-6 pounds. Like other birds, their bones are hollow.



Just a Touch

Juvenile Little Blue Heron (16 x 24 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$1,550**

The Little Blue Heron is unique among North American herons and egrets because unlike its name, the juveniles are entirely white, except for slight dusky tipped feathers, before it phases into adulthood. As the little blue heron matures it goes through a molting phase and adults turn mostly all dark blue. In its juvenile white phase the little blue heron can be confused with other white herons and egrets except for the subtle difference of its yellow-green legs.

Fact: The little blue heron is protected by the U.S. Migratory Bird Treaty Act as a Florida State Threatened species. Threats include coastal development and degradation of feeding habitat with reduced prey availability.





Misunderstood

Wood Stork (20 x 30 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$2,575**

The Wood Stork is a large bald-headed bird that stands just over 3 feet tall. It stalks through wetlands with its long bill down in the water feeling for prey. This awkward looking bird is one of Florida's signature wading birds. It is the only species of stork that breeds in the United States. Wood storks are very social animals and often nest in large colonies alongside egrets and herons. They have been known to colonize in groups of 100 to 500 nests with up to 25 nests in one tree. The head and neck of these prehistoric looking birds have gray rough scaly skin and no feathers. Adult wood storks are voiceless and only capable of making hissing sounds. I have watched small groups of wood storks foraging for food in marshes and then follow each other one by one like a conga line to the next spot.

Fact: Wood Storks occur only in a small portion of the United States. Their populations are vulnerable to changes in water levels and predators. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the Federal Endangered Species Act list them as federally threatened.

Silence

Roseate Spoonbill (16 x 24 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$1,550**

Roseate Spoonbills are typically very social birds. They like to spend most of their time gathering with other spoonbills and feeding in groups with other water birds. In sub-tropical climates they sometimes migrate south as a response to food availability. In the tropics, they rarely migrate.

In the early morning light, this beauty was one of the first to fly down from a nesting perch, have a graceful stretch, and survey the surroundings for food possibilities. Spoonbills feed more by touch than by sight which comes in handy for a bird that feeds in water that's muddy or contains blue green algae.

Fact: The spoonbill's nostrils are located at the top of the bill so that it is possible for them to breathe while their bill is sweeping back and forth for food under water





Balancing Act

Roseate Spoonbill (24 x 30, infused ink on metal) **\$2,850**

Because they are a social bird, Roseate Spoonbills nest in colonies with egrets, ibises and herons. They nest in mangroves usually on islands or water edges. They like to hide their nests in the shady part of the shrub around 15 feet high.

In the United States the roseate spoonbill is usually found in southern Florida, coastal Texas and Louisiana. But in latest Audubon research, this appears to be changing. These tropical birds are already moving north and nesting in northern Florida and reportedly in southern Georgia as well.

Fact: According to data from NOAA, a five-inch rise in sea level in Florida Bay has potentially sent flocks in search of inland nesting grounds where lower water depths offer easier access to food but also place them in greater danger of raccoons and coyotes who eat their eggs and young. Climate change when sea levels rise can have devastating effects on coastal habitats. It can cause erosion, wetland flooding and loss of habitat for fish, birds and plants.

No Escape

Red-shouldered Hawk (20 x 30 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$3,250**

Also known as a forest raptor or a sky dancer, the red-shouldered hawk is a common and noisy hawk. It is often heard before it is seen. The Red-shouldered Hawk is divided into subspecies through out north America. The form in the southern area of Florida is the palest, having a gray head and very faint barring on the chest. In the central and west Everglades this hawk is known as the Florida Gray. I watched this hawk hunt from a perch on a tree branch swooping down again and again as it located a delicacy of crayfish that never seemed to end. The red-shoulder's diet is broad and consists of small mammals, frogs, snakes, crayfish (where available) and insects.

Fact: According to research, Red-shouldered Hawks return to the same nesting territory year after year. Populations in Florida are more visible as they have adapted to open habitats. Most Red-shouldered Hawks that reside in Florida remain here year round. Their population increases in the fall with migrants from northern states.



The Strut

Tricolored Heron (20 x 30 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$2,185**



Slender and smaller than a great blue heron, the tricolored heron was originally known as the Louisiana Heron. This is one of my favorite 'swampers' during breeding season. His colors are beautiful. In this image, he is in full breeding plumage and no doubt feeling gallant and full of pride. When he struts, he'll walk around like the tune of a musical instrument, personifying a cadence like a rhythm section in the golden age of rock-and-roll. Although he carries southern roots, he is recognized internationally. Like a true 'swamper' he adapts to the rendezvous he has been summoned to. Let the beat of his handsome strut charm your very soul.

Fact: When the tricolored heron senses danger nearby in the reeds or high grasses, it may conceal itself by standing erect with its bill pointed toward the sky in order to blend in with its surroundings.



Pot O' Gold

Snowy Egret (20 x 30 inches, infused in on metal) \$2,575

Identifying the Snowy Egret can be a little confusing, and notably in Florida where there are several egret and heron species that look very similar, especially when they are gathered together in a marsh or river bed. The most distinctive feature that is a sure give-a-way to the identification of the Snowy Egret is its golden slippers. This beautiful, graceful small egret has white plumage, black legs and yellow feet that are even more brilliant during breeding season. Snowy Egrets were victims of the plume-hunting industry that took place in the mid to late 1800's. The work of concerned citizens was a triumph that helped the recovery of the shorebird population and give birth to the conservation movement. Today's threats to snowy egret populations are coastal development and habitat degradation.

Fact: According to Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Snowy Egrets sometimes mate with other heron species and produce hybrid offspring. They have been known to hybridize with Tricolored Herons, Little Blue Herons, and Cattle Egrets. A heron hybrid has been seen and photographed in Merritt Island, Florida with no clear conclusion on genealogy.

Adrift

Roseate Spoonbill (20 x 30 inches, infused ink on metal) \$3,250

The Roseate Spoonbill is a wading bird of southern coasts known for its beautiful pink plumage, distinctive spoon-shaped bill and bald head. The pink color is known to come from what it eats, a naturally occurring carotenoid pigment in the shells of crustaceans like shrimp, crayfish, crabs and more. Their head is a distinct greenish shade. Their colors brighten as they mature.

Roseate spoonbills are both flamboyant and bizarre looking. They are mesmerizing to all who encounter them. In the mid to late 1800's roseate spoonbills were almost eliminated as hunters began killing them for their unique colorful feathers which they sold for fashion accessories in a time when an ounce of feathers was said to be worth more than an ounce of gold. It wasn't until after the 1930's that the roseate began a gradual recovery. Today they are under full legal protection and this beautiful birds main threat is the destruction of their natural habitat.



Fact: Roseate Spoonbill chicks don't have a spoon-shaped bill when they hatch. When they are about 9 days old the bill begins to flatten and after a little more than two weeks it starts to look more like a spoonbill.

The Sentry

Reddish-Egret White-Morph (20 x 30 inches, infused in on metal) \$2,575

Like a little soldier standing guard on the edge of a dark mangrove, this little egret was not stationed here to prevent passage. On the contrary he had chosen this location in the briny shallow waters of this estuary to possibly woo a mate. He inspected many spots and practiced a few striking poses before fluffing his feathers for a potential suitor. On this particular day, no one took notice. His beauty and perseverance will never be lost in these few hours of living. And, unlike his ancestors before him who were decimated for their feathers in the late 1800's, this white plumed beauty just may have a fighting chance. With hopeful conservation efforts in resource planning, water assessment and conservation lands, Florida could truly strengthen reform water policy to ensure a better future for wildlife, our children and grandchildren.

Fact: Since enacted in 1918, The Migratory Bird Treaty Act has helped species like the Reddish Egret in Florida. But after 100 years, the population still has not fully recovered.





Hacia el Oeste

Juvenile Little Blue Heron Waterscape (20 x 30 inches, infused in on metal) **\$2,575**

To find west, humans look to a compass or more accurately GPS, but according to science, birds' eyes contain molecules that are believed to sense Earth's magnetic field. Migratory birds may use an internal compass to navigate between nesting areas and wintering grounds which can be separated by thousands of miles.

And in the last few years scientists theorize that birds are in tune to infrasound, a type of low-frequency noise that is produced by storms. Humans can't hear infrasound, birds can. So when oceans are in motion do birds know that some fish just 'go with the flow'?

How do waves and storms affect the outcome of predator-prey encounters? Maybe this juvenile little blue heron just might be learning what is heading his way.

Fact: Little blue herons eat mostly small fish. They are born all white and morph into a dark blue as they mature. A juvenile which is still all white will benefit from foraging with flocks of other white egrets, which stir up prey, and therefore will catch more fish than when it hunts alone.

Country Roads

Sandhill Crane Colt (20 x 30 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$2,150**

Sandhill Crane chicks are known as colts. Amazingly, after hatching they can leave the nest within 8 hours and are even capable of trudging through mud and swimming. The colts are guided by their parents as they walk behind or in-between the parents and begin their life long journey of survival skills. It is heart thumping to watch these tiny yet gangly legged babies struggle to keep up with their parents in a feat that looks almost impossible. The parents allow for short rest periods as their job is to usher them out of dangerous marshes or alligator inhabited river beds. It's these life lessons that they must adhere to if they are to survive in the wild. This young colt is 2 weeks old. In order to appear larger and less vulnerable he emulates his parents by stretching his body as high as possible and saunters across the path to join Mom and Dad. Check out the little piece of grass protruding from his bill.

Fact: Sandhill Cranes mate for life and remain together year-round. Juveniles stay with the parents for up to 10 months after hatching, as a close-knit family unit, before going out on their own.



Picky Picky

Black-crowned Night-Heron (Juvenile) (20 x 30 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$2,150**



As an adult, the Black-crowned Night-Heron is a stocky and compact heron compared to most of their relatives. They sport a black cap and back, with whitish to pale gray bellies and wings. They also have a hunchback look by tucking their necks down in their body. The juveniles however are brown and streaky all over. Young black-crowned night-herons leave the nest at only 1 month of age but cannot fly until they are about 6 weeks old. They move around their wetland nesting grounds, through the vegetation on foot mostly at night. They forage from late evening to early morning to avoid competition with other species who use the same wetland habitat during the day. They will feed during the day during breeding season for extra energy. Threats to this species include the draining and development of wetlands and contaminated water from runoff, and other pollutants.

Fact: Black-crowned Night-Herons forage in shallow water and patiently wait to ambush their prey. They attract fish by dipping their bill into the water and vibrating it rapidly to mimic the motion of prey. Once they have caught their prey, they shake it until it is stunned or killed. Black-crowned night-herons will eat almost any kind of small animal, plants and even carrion.

Sudden Flight

Brown Pelican (20 x 30 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$2,350**

According to research, the Brown Pelican is one of up to 8 different species of pelicans in the world. Brown Pelicans are coastal birds and generally not seen inland although more occurrences have been reported in Florida and elsewhere. This brownie is one of our southwest Florida resident pelicans, photographed in the western coastal region of the Everglades. Although generally drab in color, during breeding season the Brown Pelican's feathers turn bright yellow on its head and white on its neck.

Pelicans often fly in groups and low over the water. This brown pelican was with a group of 4 that landed in a tidal pond I had been watching and documenting for three months due to its location and atmospheric light refractions. Just as the sun disappeared below the horizon, he took off right over my head at such close range I was able to get this "blue hour" twilight portrait.

Fact: Brown Pelican parents share in incubating their eggs using the skin of their feet, literally standing on the eggs to keep them warm. Once hatched, the young nestlings can fly and fend for themselves after 3 months.



Peer Pressure

Great Egret (20 x 24 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$1,725**



Great Egrets are methodical, elegant shallow water hunters. They forage in both freshwater and saltwater habitats. Typically you'll see them standing completely still as they watch and wait for unsuspecting prey to come close by. Then, with an amazing jolt, they strike with a jab using their deadly yellow bill. Their feathers are lily-white, their bill yellow and their legs are black. During breeding season a patch of skin on its face turns neon green and long plumes grow from its back. There is no species that better represents conservation than the Great Egret. Efforts to stop the decimation of wading birds for their plumage began in Florida with Audubon and continues to present day conservation.

Fact: Great Egret parents monogamously incubate their 3 or 4 nest eggs. After hatching, the young egrets display aggressive behavior, and the stronger siblings often kill or push the weaker ones out of the nest so that only the strongest survive. It has been documented the parents do not stop this aggressive behavior whether it's for survival of the fittest or that it lessens their duty to feed more mouths. This sibling rivalry behavior is known as siblicide.

Angry Eyes

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (30 x 24 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$2,850**

The Yellow-crowned Night-Heron is a crab specialist. They feed on freshwater and saltwater crustaceans, mainly crabs and crayfish. They feed both day and night because their availability of food is probably influenced by tides. The yellow-crowned is more solitary and secretive than its kin, the black-crowned night-heron. They usually walk slow with a bent over posture when foraging. Yellow-crowns have a yellowish cap on their head and their bodies are gray with darker mixed coloring in the wings. All yellow-crowned night-herons are crab-eaters first and foremost. I was sitting among some stick bushes on the edge of a mud flat waiting for the fiddler crabs to emerge from their mud burrows when this Yellow-crowned Night-Heron may have been doing the same thing. He walked right up to me as I sat camouflaged in the muddy habitat and he got so close it startled us both. I pressed my shutter button for those few precious seconds as he gave me the evil eye. We both stared at one another and then he turned and walked away. I decided to leave too and leave him to his fiddlers in peace, but not without a portrait.

Fact: According to The Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the Yellow-crowned Night-Heron shows up several times in the fossil record, and the earliest recorded fossil is 2 to 2.5 million years old (from Sarasota, Florida).





Morning Zen

Flamingo (24 x 30 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$2,850**

In Audubon statistics, in the early 1800s, people who visited coastal areas in southern Florida in winter were met with an astounding sight: hundreds of thousands of Flamingos. By the end of the century, however, they were eradicated by plume hunters for their feathers and egg harvesting, and ever since, the birds have been scarce in the Sunshine State until a few years ago when they were spotted in a portion of the Everglades ecosystem. Their appearance was no less than amazing. And so far they keep coming back every year. Only time will tell where these birds are coming from and if we can expect their populations to grow in the Everglades and other areas of Florida.

Florida is trying to learn everything we can about flamingos. Through tagging and various conservation efforts including those of zoos, gardens and parks, flamingos are being studied and protected. Scientists are learning how these elusive creatures can be preserved from loss of habitat, drought, famine and predators.

Fact: Flamingos are monogamous by nature and only lay around one egg per year.

Poised

Tricolored Heron (28 x 30 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$3,250**

The tricolored heron got its name for its distinct set of tricolors. It has a dark slate-blue colored head and upper body, a purple chest and a white belly. It is the only dark heron with light underparts. Tricolored herons are permanent residents of Florida. They are skilled at stalking, patiently standing still to capture small fish. Before striking, they pull in their neck and squat down so their belly often touches the water. Their foraging style is more active and animated than some other herons. Similar to reddish egrets they use wing flapping, sharp turns and pirouetting with wings over their head to entice fish to find the shade they provide.

They mostly forage alone, but they nest in colonies with other herons and egrets.

In Florida, the reduced flow of freshwater in the Everglades has been the most likely reason for their decline, prompting the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to list them as state threatened.

Fact: As tricolored heron chicks get older they have been known to lunge and snap at their parents when they arrive at the nest with food. To appease the youngsters, parents greet them with bows.





Moth Orchid

Florida Flowers & Plants (24 x 30 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$1,500**

The Moth Orchid produces long arching sprays of white or pink flowers resembling moths in flight, hence the common name Moth orchid. The plant produces one or two new thick, leathery leaves a year. The older leaves drop off at the same rate. A leaf may be from 12 to 24 inches long, depending on the cultivation. The flowering orchid plant is adorned with 10 to 20 flowers with five petals, and from two to four inches in diameter. The colors vary from white, pink, yellow, orange, peppermint striped, and two toned varieties.

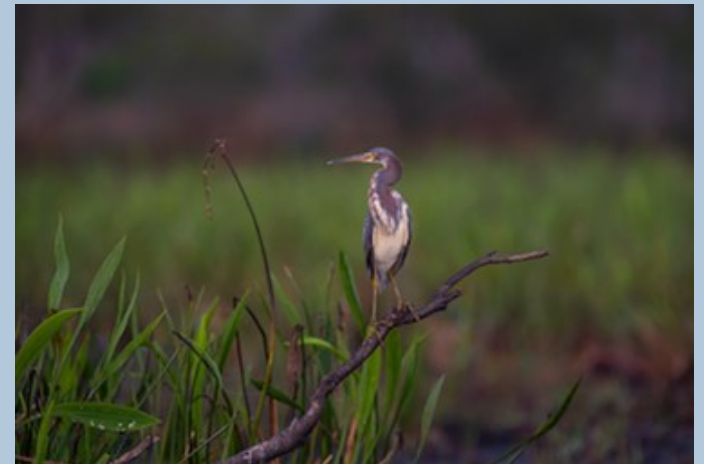
Fact: Orchids have long been a focus of attention. In the past, many collectors visited areas in Florida where wild orchids grew to remove plants for their personal collection, or to sell for profit. Today many rare and common orchid varieties that are acceptable to warm and humid climates such as the Everglades, are being grown in the wild to surprisingly similar success as their past worldly origins.

Bird on a Stick

Tricolored Heron Southwestern Everglades Landscape (30 x 50, infused ink on metal) **\$4,500**

Coastal estuaries throughout Florida and the Everglades are a great place to look for Tricolored Herons like this one, year-round. Hiking around salt marshes, mangroves, lagoons, lake edges, swamps and canals that have small trees or shrubs is often where you can observe Herons, Egrets, Bitterns and other shorebirds. Twenty-five years ago wetlands were a dominant landscape feature in Florida with an estimated 11.4 million acres occupying almost 30 percent of the state. That means about 55% of the freshwater wetlands were forested, 25% were marshes, 18 percent were scrub wetlands and the remaining 2 percent were freshwater ponds. (from U.S Dept. of the Interior, USGS) As the population in Florida has grown, the wetlands have been affected by human activities. Today, most of the wetland areas in Florida north of Miami were drained, dredged and/or filled between 1960 and 1996 for agriculture, roads and houses. Saving our wetlands is vital to the health of Florida's environment.

Fact: Without the support of permanent conservation of environmentally sensitive lands and critical habitat areas through land acquisition and conservation easements, scenery like this will not be here in the future.





Light Show

National Geographic Editor's Award Winning Photograph (30 x 50 inches)
\$5,850

One thing Florida is known for during the summer months is our thunderstorms. Full fledged, roaring, fast & furious, thunderhead, polarizing, electrifying, run-for-shelter storms. This photograph was taken at 4:30am on the small coastal island town of Pine Island in southwest Florida. It is one single thunderhead that formed in about 15 minutes and dissipated almost as quickly. Thunder can be heard from about 10 miles away. Lightning can strike outward by 10 miles. So if you hear thunder rumbling from the sky and clouds, you are in danger of being struck by lightning.

Fact: Although thunderstorms occur throughout the world with the greatest frequency happening in tropical rainforest areas, no other part of North America has more lightning activity than Florida.

Likewise, I'm Sure

Reddish Egret Dark Morph (40 x 60 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$6,250**

Reddish Egret Dark Phase in breeding plumage at sunset. Sporting a shaggy-hairdo as he hunts his favorite tidal pond where neither jumping, running, or a mud-tussle with prey seem to effect the perfection of his cinnamon plumes. Reddish Egrets can often be identified at great distances by their characteristic feeding behavior. They will pop their wings into the air like an umbrella to provide shade or a shadow below them. Small fish instinctively seek shelter in shaded areas created by the reddish egret's wing canopy. Over most of their southern U.S. range the dark morph is seen more frequently than the more rare, white morph. White morphs made up a higher percentage of decimation by the 1800's plume hunters.

Fact: Current threats and population trends of reddish egrets are one of the least studied. The species appears to be declining. Coastal development and disturbance of foraging and breeding sites are a primary concern. They are protected by the U.S. Migratory Bird Treaty Act and designated as a Threatened species by Florida's Endangered and Threatened Species Rule.





Migration

Mixed Species in Landscape (24 x 36 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$3,420**

Migrating birds use the stars for navigation, as well as the sun, wind patterns and landforms, all of which help guide them to the same locations each year. The earth's magnetic field also plays a part in how birds navigate during migration. Migrating birds face many threats along their journeys, including window collisions, confusing lights that disrupt navigation, striking TV and radio towers, hunting, habitat loss and predation.

Fact: fall and spring migration bring many birds looking to take advantage of Florida's temperatures. Migration peaks during this time but in reality, there are birds migrating all over the globe 365 days a year.

Stormy

Osprey (24 x 36 inches, infused ink on metal) **\$3,420**

Osprey are superb anglers and live fish make up 99 percent of their diet. Osprey have curved claws and barbed gripping pads on their feet to help pluck fish from the water. Osprey are adaptable to changes in habitat and human landscapes. Unfortunately, human trash like plastics and fishing line commonly finds its way into their nests. They just don't know how to distinguish the dreadful danger. Only we can help.

Osprey are the only large raptors with unmarked white bellies. To help with identification, they are brown above and white below. Their heads are white with a broad brown stripe from the neck through the eye. Watching them fish, as they often hover before diving feet first to grab a fish, is an international wonder.

Fact: Osprey are found on every continent in the world except Antarctica.





About the Artist:

Marc Harris is an internationally recognized nature and conservation photographer. His photography of nature, and cycles of our natural world reflect a rare look into the biodiversity of life that exists all around us everyday.

In Marc's pursuit of increasing the intensity of conservation awareness, he shoots powerful imagery resulting in empathy and education through visual awareness that leads to positive change for our global community.

"I feel it is important to make everyone conscious of the struggles in balancing Florida's growth and population with environmental conservation," says Harris. Marc's priority is focused on connecting the public to the impact and solutions that we can create for generations to come.

Conservation Photography has become its own art form of making a difference in raising awareness and helping to change through visual emotion. Marc uses photography as a powerful tool for people to get up close and personal to life around them. Through his passion he hopes in some cases to revive, and in others to change the way humans interact to a single place on earth.

Marc Harris lives in Southwest Florida with his wife Alison and together they advocate for the protection of the environment, work with community leaders, charitable organizations, and not-for-profit organizations to help provide the public with education and awareness of nature and wildlife protection.

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