



Adapted line drawing of Corridors | Steve Hickman

## **STEVE HICKMAN**

### **Corridors**

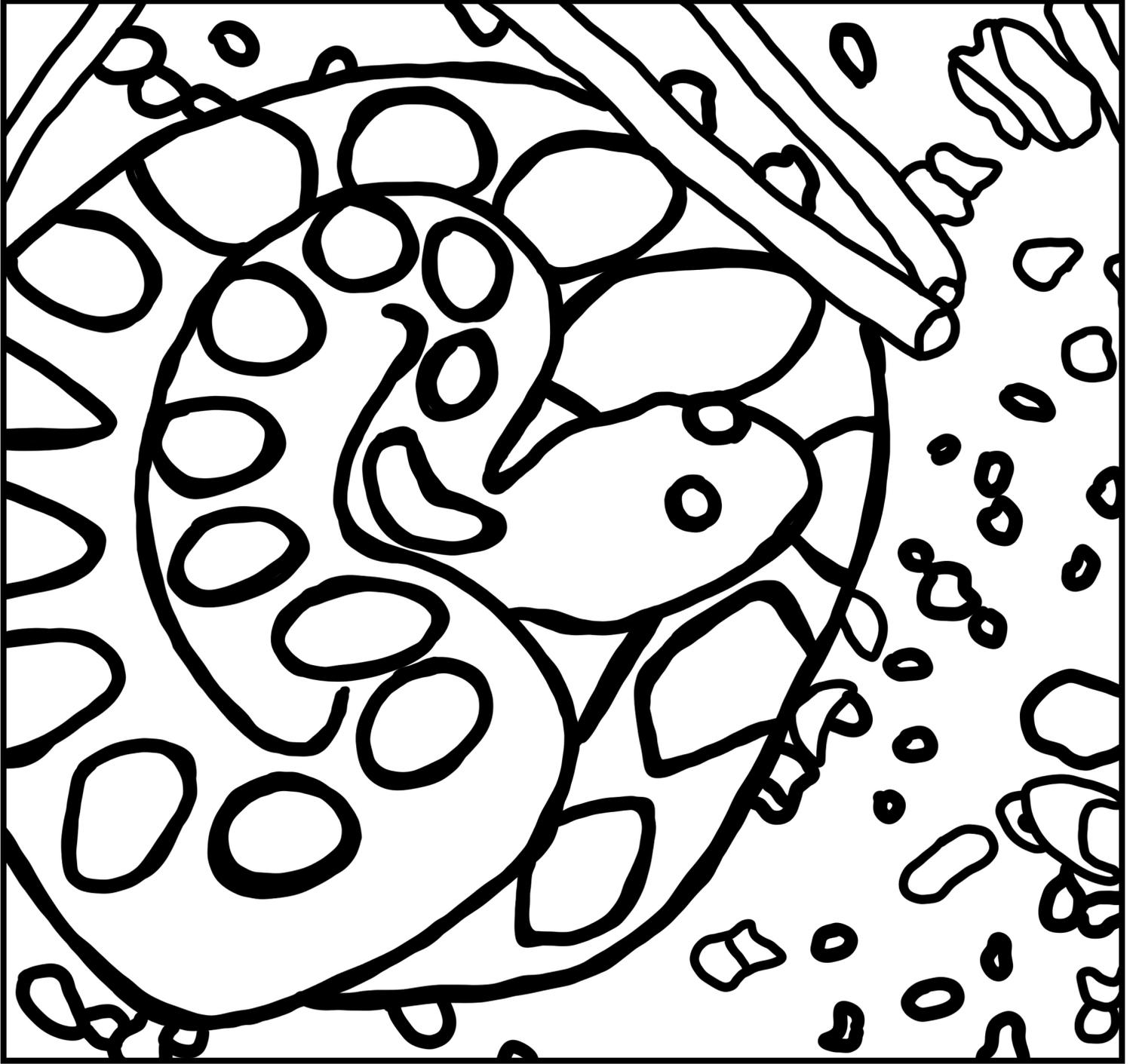
oil on oil primed panel

From the Tohono Chul exhibition

### **Sonoran Symbiosis**

Inter-relationships between the jaguar and humans are both ancient and tenuous. Revered in art, myth and religion by the Pre-Columbian Maya and Aztec people, today this powerful predator finds itself at odds with ranchers and habitat loss in Mexico and Central/South America. Current sightings and ongoing research provide information about jaguars as they travel north and south of the Mexican border via 'corridors' in the Santa Rita and other Sky Island ranges. This piece represents the juxtaposition of the jaguar and human corridors in southern Arizona.

I am a Western and Wildlife artist. My Plein Aire works provide concepts and information for studio paintings. During my career as a National Park Service Ranger, I was a keen observer and painter of the natural scene and active participant in wildlife programs. My illustrations appear in several Yosemite National Park publications. My education includes a degree in Wildlife Management with a minor in Art from Colorado State University, Delgado Community College in New Orleans and study under Master Gerald Merfeld of Westcliffe, Colorado. I served on the Board of Directors of the Western Colorado Center for the Arts and am a member of the Sangres Art Guild, Santa Rita Art League and Tucson Plein Aire Painters Society.



# JAN MAYER

## **Serpentine Cover**

digital photograph on metal

From the Tohono Chul exhibition

## **Sonoran Desert - Large and Small**

The concept of the desert being barren, dry, and seemingly lifeless with only extreme heat or cold conditions is hardly the reality of our Sonoran Desert. This can be a lush, varied landscape with an abundant diversity of species, both plant and animal. In the lowlands, saguaro forests rule the environment, their giant monolithic presence coupled with other strange and fruitful plant life possess amazing adaptations for survival. Animals shelter in the day's heat and then emerge from their concealed places to feed and prepare for their next generations. Precious water is the ultimate life sustaining essence in this unique and enigmatic habitat. We celebrate its arrival and marvel at the transformation left behind as its memory.

The marriage of photography and nature is simple and complementary. It reveals an exquisite complexity of design and seductive allure for function in the natural world. My work resonates what I into it, to be the spirit of life's reflections in color, shadow, texture, movement and emotion.

Using digital photography has freed my senses to capture vibrant images in an immediate way yet allows the creative process to continue after through maneuvering in the digital darkroom. I use watercolor paper, canvas or metal to create archival images that enhance the mood and ambience of each piece.

My art brings to light the organic beauty that surrounds and occupies my environment. Its painterly quality enhances their illusion as they weave back and forth into another guise of reality.

To learn more about Jan Mayer, go to <https://www.janmayerphotography.com/>



Adapted line drawing of Defiant Five | Victoria von Elbe

## **VICTORIA VON ELBE**

### **Defiant Five**

color woodcut print

From the Tohono Chul exhibition

### **Desert Corridors**

The many different types of corridors all focus on the same goal: to ensure connectivity between isolated habitat patches, so that many species can move freely throughout the landscape.

I moved to Tucson from Chicago in 2005. Planting the Sonoran Desert's iconic specimens around my home was an immediate goal upon moving to Arizona. Their shapes provide endless inspiration for my prints and remind me that I do not live in the desert I live with the desert. My woodblock prints are by hand on the finest Japanese papers in very small editions.



Adapted line drawing of Rabbits Resting | Victoria von Elbe

# VICTORIA VON ELBE

## **Rabbits Resting**

woodcut print on Japanese paper

From the Tohono Chul exhibition

## **Sonoran Symbiosis**

Animals and plants benefit thru feeding relationships. As I observe in my backyard: rabbits nibbling on prickly pear pads and fruit, then dispersing seeds thru scat that produces a new plant.

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