

Andries Fourie Statement

For my LARC project I propose to conduct research and produce a body of mixed-media sculptures and paintings that explore the biodiversity of the Cacadu district of South Africa's Eastern Cape province. I am particularly interested in making artworks that map the web of interdependencies between species. I intend to do so through an interdisciplinary collaboration with Dr. David Craig of the Willamette Biology Department, and Dr. Richard Cowling of the Botany Department at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Dr. Cowling has already signaled his willingness to collaborate. Professor Mary Duker, Director of Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University's School of Music, Art & Design, has also expressed an interest in taking part in the project. I plan to make works that map species interaction as well as human-species interaction in the district's rich variety of biomes (forest, thicket, fynbos, grassland, savanna, and Na