

*Trace Farewell* is a collection of photographic works created from the appropriated illustrations of endangered species from the 1970 publication *Last Survivors: The Natural History of Animals in Danger of Extinction*, a reference book of mammals and birds placed on the Endangered Species List, written by Noel Simon and Paul Géroudet and illustrated by Helmet Diller and Paul Barruel. Unfortunately, 50 years later, these species remain endangered. *Trace Farewell* is a reminder of these species pending status as creatures of this Earth. In the era of the Anthropocene, humans are causing global changes to the environment, resulting in the Sixth Extinction. The leading cause of anthropogenic species extinction is habitat loss, with the destruction of the rainforests and coral reefs being the areas with the most biodiversity reduction.

Artists Koo Bohnchang and Andy Warhol are inspirations for this series. Bohnchang's series *Good-bye Paradise, Blue* uses scientific illustrations to allude to how science categorizes the natural world in an attempt to control nature. Warhol created ten prints in 1983 titled *Endangered Species*, utilizing a combination of appropriated photographs and the silkscreen process in the same Pop Art aesthetic of his previous works. Like Warhol's earlier works, the *Endangered Species* images used the same "power of celebrity" to advocate for endangered species survival.

*Trace Farewell* is a reminder of the human desire for control over nature through classification and of the impending loss of species as a result of our behaviors. These images represent a trace image; although they are from illustrations, they are a trace of scientific classification and possibly of species that will no longer exist. Their fragile existence should not be minimized as they are part of the beauty and wonder of the natural world, and their decline is merely a symptom of a much more significant threat.