

TORONTO BIENNIAL OF ART

Abel Rodríguez Nonuya, born in Cahuinarí
region, Colombia; lives in Bogotá, Colombia

Wilson Rodríguez Nonuya, born in Cahuinarí
region, Colombia; lives in Bogotá, Colombia

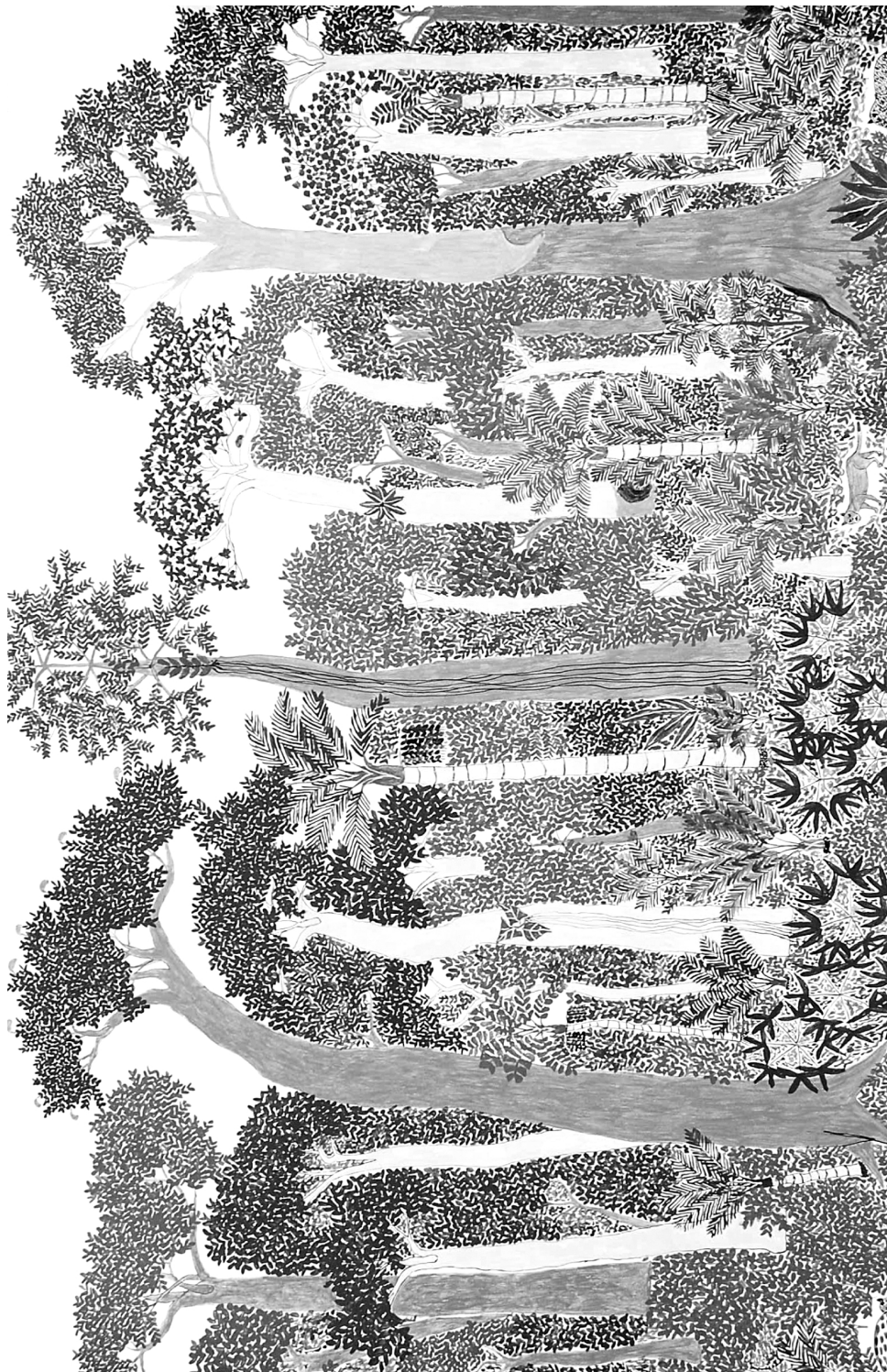
Works :

Tierra Firme, 2019 , Acrylic on paper

Terraza Alta, 2019, Acrylic on paper

Calendario, 2019, Acrylic on paper

Toronto Biennial of Art
Tools for Learning
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Keywords and Connections

Indigenous ways of knowing, ecologies, learning
with the land, intergenerational knowledge



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Questions and
Conversation Starters

What is the same?

What is different?

How do you translate information using
different senses?

Do you know something about this plant?

Could you share that knowledge with someone
else? How?

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Abel Rodriguez, *Ciccol anual en las
altas Terrazas de la selva tropical*
(Annual cycle in the high terraces of
the rainforest), 2007. Ink on paper.
Courtesy of Abel Rodriguez and
Tropenbos International Colombia



Project description:

"I had never drawn before, I barely knew how to write, but I had a whole world in my mind asking me to picture the plants."

Abel Rodríguez, a Nonuya Elder, translates his encyclopedic knowledge of plants and trees of his homeland, the Igara Paraná River region, into highly detailed drawings.

Wilson Rodríguez's work is an extension of his father Abel's botanical knowledge of the Amazonian jungle. The artist's practice is distinguished, however, by its embrace of plants as a means of expanding perception and forging connections with the ancestral world.

Location:

Small Arms Inspection Building



Tool: Observing Together

Pick up a leaf or natural material off the ground. Draw what you have found as best as you can without lifting the pen/pencil from the paper. Try not to peak at the paper while tracing the lines and contours of the material. It may seem wobbly and that's okay, keep going. When you are finished observing and drawing, take a look at what you've drawn.

Give it to someone older without telling them what you based the contour drawing on. Ask them to make a copy of your drawing using these same instructions above. When they are finished, you may show them the original found material that you had observed.



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