ART ASSIGNMENT: Never Seen Never Will

ARTIST: David Brooks

IDEAS FROM THE ARTIST

* Relationship of natural and built environments
* how humans perceive the natural world
* how humans imagine things beyond their own experience and make realities from their imagination
* relationship of human/cultural history and the natural world

ARTWORK/S

*Preserved Forest* 2001 Concrete sprayed on live plant installation

* deforestation shown in a very painful, real way (rather than an abstract fact)

*Crates Blocks, and Mammals*, 2014 bronze abstraction of animals, but weighing exactly the same as the actual animal

* how we represent something is different than what it is, even though we may get some things right.

IDEAS FROM THE ANIMATION (Show hosts explain the contexts behind artists work)

* We project our ideas of what we know from our own lived experience to make sense of what we don’t know and haven’t seen.
  + William Bebe 1934 marine biologist, dove into the ocean and described (through a communication wire)what he saw to scientific illustrators (Else Bostelmann) in the boat.
  + Albrecht Durer *The Rhinoceros* 1515 Durer drew something he had never seen and he used what he knew from his own experience (rivets on knights armor) to make sense of what he doesn’t know.

MY TAKEAWAY

We use what we know to understand and act on what we don’t know

POSSIBLE UNIT TOPICS (These are separate unit topics, not parts of one unit)

* Misunderstandings
  + We tell other people’s stories inaccurately because we color it with our bias.
  + When view something through a specific lens, we see it differently
* Translation
  + When something passes through too many links, it gets lost in the translation and becomes something else entirely (telephone game)
* Nature vs. Human Built Environment
  + Humans influence the natural world

TANGENTS FOR ANOTHER TIME

Scientific Illustrator Else Bostelmann’s art… AMAZING!