Title of artwork: “A Day on the Oregon Coast, 12/21/12—a triptych”

Media: Charcoal on paper and poem on paper

Year created: 2012

Narrative
Our cartesian mindset seeks to compartmentalize infinite nature into categories. By drawing Cannon Beach in two sections, I strive to set up a tension between Western society’s habit of dissecting nature into fragments, in contrast with the complex ever-changing ocean that stretches beyond the horizon. "Dead birds on beach no cause for alarm: A Pantoum" reflects on my experience seeing Gearhart beach covered with dead birds that same day. The pantoum poetic form expresses the difficulty Oregonians have gaining accurate information from researchers and the media about why the Oregon Coast is sometimes covered with dead birds.

Artist Statement
As a liberal-studies graduate student at Reed College and multidisciplinary artist I strive to connect the dots between different ways of seeing and knowing in order to inspire Oregonians to think about the Oregon coast in new ways.
Dead birds on beach no cause for alarm
A Pantoum

Hundreds of dead seabirds washed up on the Coast.
Winter Solstice, Gearhart Beach–again.
Google, news oracle, few articles.

Winter Solstice, Gearhart Beach–again.
"Dead birds on beach no cause for alarm."
Seabird species vie for top Dead Bird of Year.

"Dead birds on beach no cause for alarm."
Global warming killing the krill.
Seabird species vie for top Dead Bird of Year.
COASST calls global warming die offs "natural."

Global warming killing the krill.
Cassin's Auklets dive deep and feed on krill.
COASST calls global warming die offs "natural."
Volunteers count dead birds, statistics gather.

Cassin's Auklets dive deep and feed on krill.
I write article on BlogCritics.
Volunteers count dead birds, statistics gather.
Later article, my same headline.

I write article on BlogCritics.
Ask OPB, cover story.
Later article, my same headline.
Press ignores big picture of dead birds.

Ask OPB, cover story.
Winter Solstice, return of light.
Press ignores big picture of dead birds.
Hundreds of dead seabirds washed up on the Coast.