



First Up: Radiographic, a Survey of X-Ray Photo Art by Steve Miller

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by Pat Rogers

When considering the pairing of x-ray and art, it's easy to think of Steve Miller. For years, Miller has created portraits of endangered animals, reptiles, occasional fashion accessories, and even musical instruments through the lens of x-ray technology. His art reorients the familiar and transforms the object of his interest into portraits set in abstract terrains.

Miller's unique vantage point requires the viewer of his fine art to slow down and reconsider the subject of his fine art in a new light. This pondering may extend to the subject's identity, roles, social meanings and implications for the environment. Passionate about the environment, Miller's fine art seeks to explore his observations on the intersection of human beings, the environment, its creatures and object created by humankind as a way to consider the universal whole.

While it may seem unusual to cast a Channel bag, scientific formulas, a school of piranhas or ancient Asian vessels as subjects for environment examination, [Steve Miller](#) sees these elements as integral parts of a story that's intertwined across history and mingled with actions and reactions that gives rise to current conditions.

Miller's use of x-ray technology (x-ray machinery and MRI technology) to create his art receives a focused look in his book "[Radiographic: X-Ray Photo Inventions](#)," published by Glitterati Editions in 2017. The book contains a foreword by Carl Safina, a Preface by Marvin Heiferman and an Introduction by Steve Miller. The monograph presents a near-survey of Miller's art, presenting over 105 images, representing several of Miller's series including "Vanitas" (1998-2000); "Heath of the Planet" (2008-2014); "The Kingdom of Instinct" (2015) and others.

Even before "Radiographic" was published, [Glitterati Editions](#) extended an invitation to publish a second book showcasing Steve Miller's art integrated with surfboards and skateboards. In the new book "[Surf/Skate: Art and Board Life](#)," published May 2019, Miller allows viewers inside the ride from art creation to transforming imagery onto objects that now cut across ocean waves or concrete obstacle courses, infusing energy into all.

Steve Miller will launch his new book in the Hamptons at a Book Signing and Art Party on Friday, August 23, 2019, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Keyes Art, 53 Main Street, Sag Harbor, NY 11963. Admission is free. Click [here](#) to read about "Surf/Skate."

On the occasion of the publication of "[Surf/Skate: Art and Board Life](#)," it seemed only fitting to take a look at the art that inspired two books and walks gracefully within the fine art fields and the pop culture one. The designs and art process showcased in Surf/Skate as embraced by fans of surf

boards (whether using them in oceans or collecting them as objects), skateboarders and people wearing his clothing designs all draw upon Miller's fine art practice.

Using x-ray technology, Miller makes monumental mixed media photography-based art that can take the form of paintings or sculpture. In his art, Miller weaves individuality with narrative subtlety to reveal not only a protein atom, a blood cell, an orchid, or a fish, but a life force that contains a soul of its own. Traveling extensively for his art, Miller has x-rayed subjects in the Amazon rainforest, in Switzerland at [CERN](#), the world-renowned physics lab, on Long Island and many other locations.

His fine art has been exhibited in galleries and museums nationally and internationally and is held in permanent collections of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery (Buffalo, NY); Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University (Waltham, MA); Santa Barbara Museum (CA); Foundation Hahnloser (Bern, Switzerland); Musee de la Mode (Paris); Museo de Arte do Rio (Rio de Janeiro) and others.

All of the following artworks can be found in the pages of "Radiographic: X-Ray Photo Inventions." A story on "Surf/Skate: Art and Board Life" can be read by clicking [here](#).



"Agreement That Emerged" by Steve Miller, March 2011. Pigment dispersion, silkscreen on canvas, 79 x 78 inches. Courtesy of the artist.



"HOP646" by Steve Miller, September 23, 2013. Inkjet, silk-screen on paper. Courtesy of the artist.



"Glass" by Steve Miller, 2008. Print edition, carbon inkjet on cotton rag, 24 x 29 inches. Courtesy of the artist.



"School of the Abyss" by Steve Miller, May 2015. Pigment dispersion and silk-screen on canvas, 79 x 113 inches. Courtesy of the artist.



“Beyond Bushwick” by Steve Miller, August 2015. Pigment dispersion and silk-screen, 82 x 79 inches. Courtesy of the artist.



“HOP #675” by Steve Miller, June 13, 2014. Inkjet and enamel on paper. Courtesy of the artist.



“When Conditions Are Favorable” by Steve Miller, 2009. Inkjet, pigment dispersion and silkscreen on canvas, 22 x 26.5 inches. Courtesy of the artist.



“HOP #689” by Steve Miller, February 1 2016. Inkjet, silkscreen on paper, 24 x 28.5 inches. Courtesy of the artist.



“River Raptors” by Steve Miller, 2011. Print edition, carbon inkjet on cotton rag, 24 x 24 inches. Courtesy of the artist.

BASIC FACTS: Steve Miller’s art can be viewed on his website at www.stevemiller.com. His books and fashions can be found at www.stevemiller.art.

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