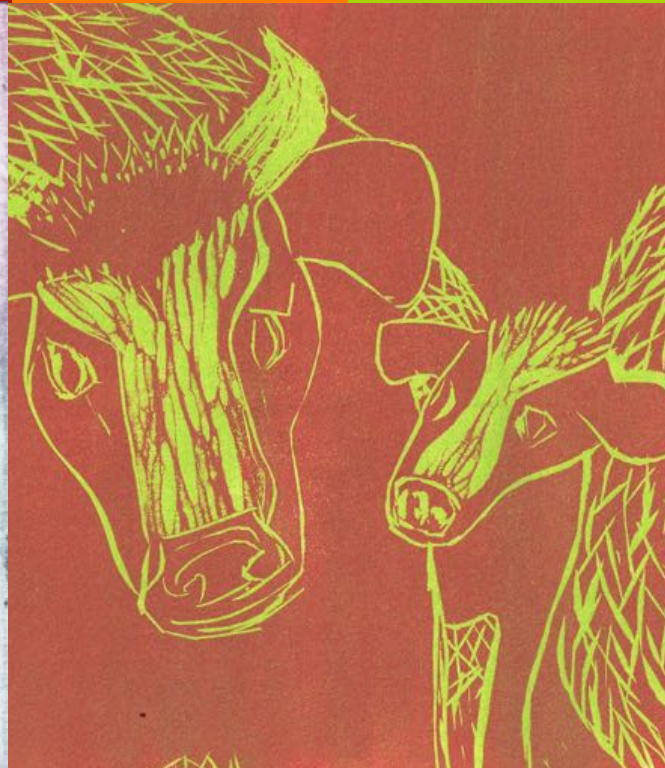
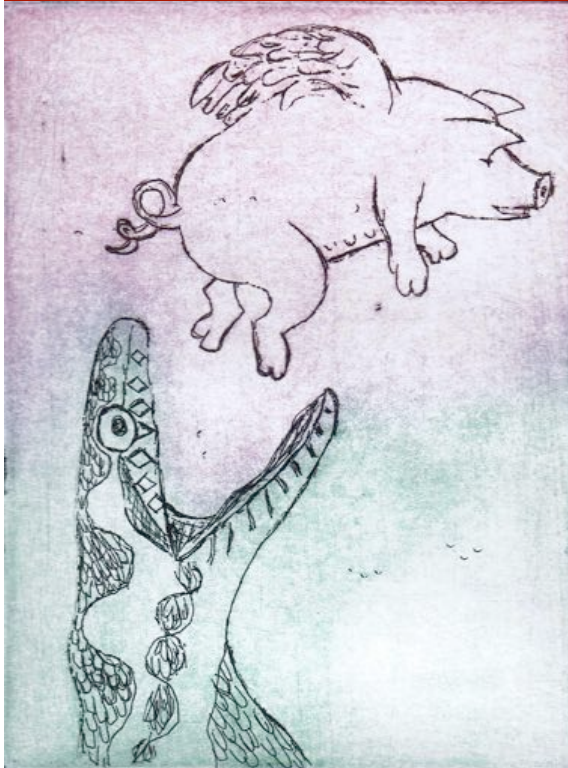




# Animal Odyssey

A Five-Year Artistic Exploration of Animal-Human Relationships



# Definition of Odyssey

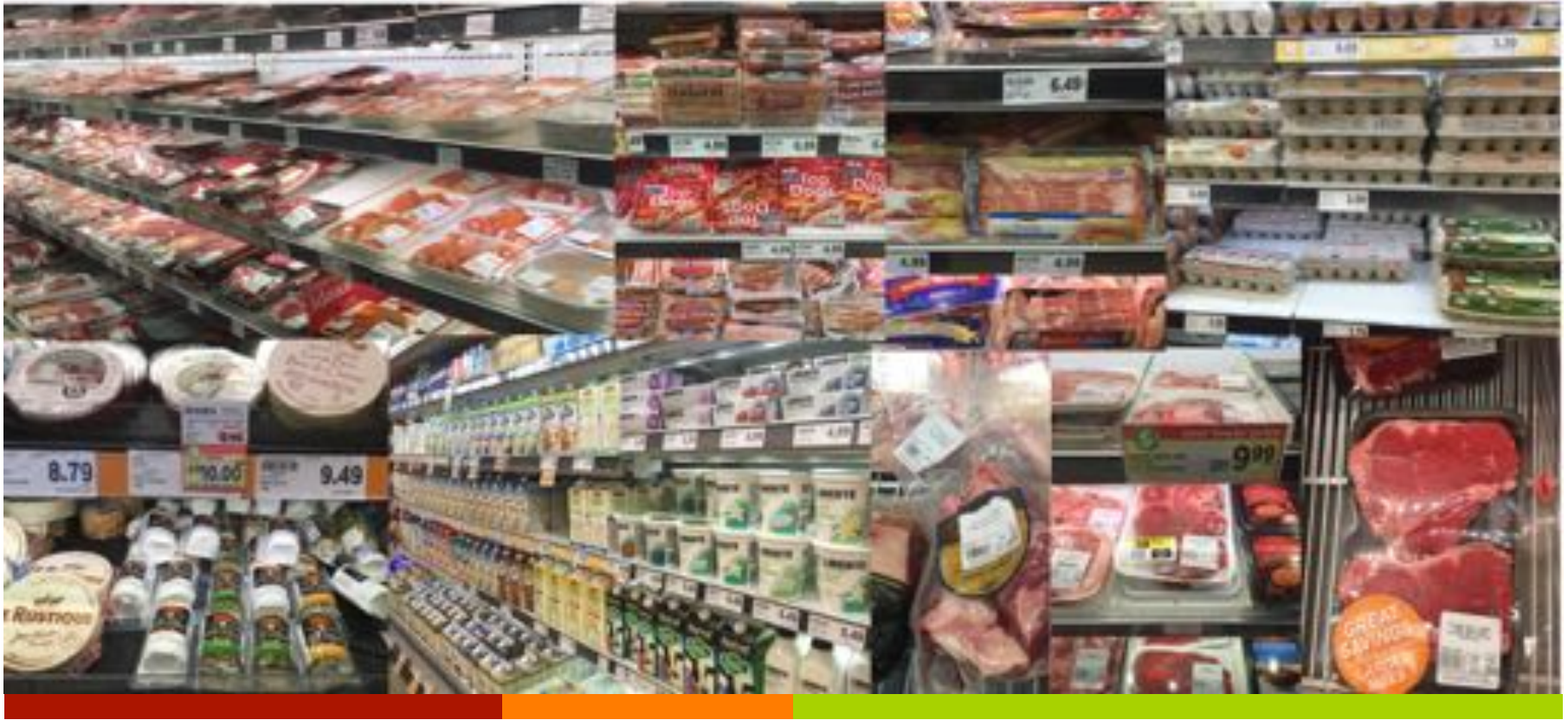
- Noun, plural **Odysseys**.
- 1. (*italics*) an epic poem attributed to Homer, describing Odysseus's adventures in his ten-year attempt to return home to Ithaca after the Trojan War.
- 2. (*often lowercase*) a long series of wanderings or adventures, especially when filled with notable experiences, hardships, etc.



# My Animal Odyssey 2010-ongoing

## MORAL DILEMMA

- I have always been an animal lover
- I have feelings of remorse that we treat food animals so poorly
- What can I do? What am I willing to do? Will it make a difference to any animals?
- I struggle with the dilemma through my art



## What the Consumer Sees

Have you ever stopped to think how many products we eat are animal-based: meat, fish, fowl, milk, cheese, eggs...?

10 billion land animals are slaughtered each year for food.



The hidden  
world of animal  
suffering – it is  
everywhere

We don't see the horrible realities of factory farms,  
transportation and slaughterhouses – check it out yourself.

Image credits: Jo-Anne McArthur / We Animals / [www.weanimals.org](http://www.weanimals.org); and Toronto Cow Save

# Why are farm animals raised in poor factory farm conditions?

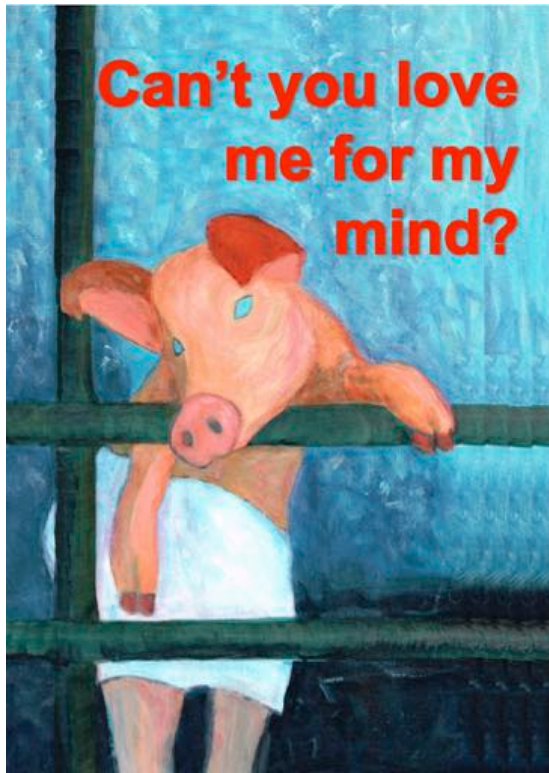
- Consumers increasingly demand more cheap meat, dairy and eggs
- In relative terms animal-based food is cheaper than it was 30 years ago
- The demand is spreading globally straining our resources and contributing to climate change



# There are alternatives

- What are individuals willing to do about Farm Animal Welfare?
  - Eat less meat, dairy and eggs?
  - Eat local produce from farmers following humane and sustainable farming practices?—Go and see for yourself.
  - Stand up when we see abuse?
  - Fight for stronger legislation to protect farm animals?
  - Support organizations that work to protect farm animals such as the Canadian Coalition for Farm Animals, Beyond Factory Farming, and many more?
- What can you do?

# Pigs in a (post) modern world



- Started in 2010 with first pig intervention
- Ongoing project to repaint/recreate modern and contemporary works of art incorporating pigs
- Art History – developed a comprehensive gallery catalogue 2014
- Continue to work on a print series: *Pig Possibilities* and my postcard series



# Cattle in Print: The Changing Pastoral



- Curated a virtual exhibition addressing cattle and consumption in the last two hundred years as depicted in the medium of print in a pastoral tradition
- Using the gallery to develop public awareness of the realities of animal-based food production, particularly beef, veal and dairy.
- Augmented by my own cow prints and paintings

# Sheep & Goats



- I have recently started to do some lamb and goat work.
- I clicked on a cute lamb picture on Toronto Cow Save Facebook post and I almost went into cardiac arrest at the treatment of the baby lambs grabbed from their mothers and hung by their front feet in bunches, as if plants.
- This work is my most challenging as I am putting goat's and lamb's heads on human bodies in a series I call "animal lovers."
- One of my colleagues expressed it best: "Cute...but very creepy."



# The odyssey continues...

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