

Flora and Fauna

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This installation was inspired by a visit to the picturesque island of Hydra, where I chanced upon a makeshift landfill inhabited by chickens and cats.

The matter of refuse—its generation, disposal and assimilation into the environment—has always been of concern to me, especially since moving to Greece where 90% of the garbage that makes its way to the landfill is recyclable. The harmonious co-existence of the chickens and cats aside, I was struck by the “symbiotic cycle” between the local flora/fauna and their environment in this otherwise quaint setting.

The title, “Flora and Fauna,” refers to the two basic elements found in nature, and the use of garbage implies the environment. The materials used include a month’s accumulation of “garbage” generated from my household, which includes the five animals depicted on the plastic supermarket bags. It is the empty tins of pet food that have been recycled into the basis for a garden, originating from a selection of seeds and cuttings taken from my own plants (mainly cooking herbs and other typical plants found on city balconies). The video footage is of the original landfill on Hydra.



*Rooster and cat at the makeshift landfill; Hydra, Greece
video still*



*Flora growth stage one with legend
sprouts and cuttings in tins*



Flora growth stage one with garbage



Detail (Gourmet succulent)



*Fauna (clockwise: Gooch, Lotty, Olive, Boogie and Pseeps)
ink on plastic shopping bags*



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studio installation