

FAST FASHION FOR A FALLOW LAND

By Anna Sew Hoy for the Candlewood Arts Festival 2020

Fast Fashion for a Fallow Land is a temporary action, aiming to create a lingering after-image on the Anza Borrego vista. We wrapped hundreds of yards of fuchsia satin around three of Ricardo Breceda's sheet metal animal sculptures, which number over one hundred, in Galleta Meadows. In this piece, wrapping is care, swaddling, abstracting, holding up, and highlighting.

Our wrapping animates the static metal animals. In the dusty landscape, the fuchsia satin creates a momentary intensity akin to what one finds in a desert bloom. We wrapped a saber tooth tiger leaping onto a wild horse, another wild horse rearing, and a baby wooly mammoth. Our wrapping softens and abstracts Breceda's brutal tales of survival; as well, it transforms them into the baroque drapery of classical marble sculpture. They are abstracted, becoming large alien bulges with flapping skins.

As well, our wrapping channels the wind for motion and sound. The wind pulls the satin up and a long silver-screen scarf unfurls, rippling and snapping. *Fast Fashion* is visible at a distance, glimpsed while speeding down the highway, demonstrating the vast shifts in scale I always feel in the desert. *Fast Fashion* can be seen from a distant spot under the horizon, and close up it becomes a towering mass of shiny fuchsia overhead.

The fuchsia satin commands attention with its sheen and saturation, but then redirects it to the environment around - the mountains, the wind, the meadow and scrub. It frames the desert by existing as its foil. It is a perplexing interruption to the boundless view, an interruption which reaches towards the fantastical, the magical. This reaching towards fantasy echoes Breceda's magical replacement in metal form, of the prehistoric animals who once walked these lands.