mandy renard — *rewilding*



It's time to rewild.

Rewilding is the antidote to environmental degradation and is also a state of mind. The works in this show are a celebration and conjuring of the rewilded mind and world. They are personifications of spiritual pleasures in harmony with the pleasures of nature.

As Einstein said "Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited to all we know and understand, while imagination embraces the entire world and all there will ever be to know and understand."

I invite you to imagine your own rewilding. A rewilded woman is a magnificence to behold, awe-inspiring, powerful, beautiful. Perhaps there is only one thing more magnificent than a rewilded woman and that is a rewilded world; one might say this is the ultimate woman

Collectively we know how to get there and billions of people are already working towards making it happen – the more you look the more you find. It is time to 'rewild,' and enjoy the process. We need to now live up to the name Homo sapien and remember that for us to thrive, the rest of the natural world and other people need not suffer.

It's a mindset worth embracing. Without it, we are looking at a mass extinction event. With it, we are looking at a future even more wonderful than the reality we experience today. Why am I feeling so confident? In part, it's thanks to David Attenborough.

Attenborough's latest book 'A Life on Our Planet,' began with an intense and grueling witness statement. It concludes with an awe-inspiring life-affirming vision for the future. Did you know that kelp grows at 23 cm's a day, can be made into plastic which turns into fish food and all the while absorbs oodles of carbon? Or that if we made the nurseries of the ocean into marine protected areas the ocean could recover almost fully in as little as 15 years? Or that a return of the trees would absorb two-thirds of the carbon we have put into the atmosphere?

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In reading this book and then extending my research into other areas, I learned about so many inspirational industries and initiatives; about Alt-proteins, best practice aquaculture, bioenergy, carbon capture, clean meat, circular economics, marine protected areas, ocean forestry, silvopasture and so much more.

It made me feel that wherever you are in society or whatever is your unique perspective, there is a way for you to engage, to get inspired, be a leader, and a part of the change.

As David Attenborough says, "We have the knowledge but we also have something unique. We can imagine our future and then go about creating it. We have all the tools we need and the thoughts and ideas of billions of remarkable minds with the immeasurable energies of nature to help us in our work."

I hope this exhibition is in some way part of the ripple that is becoming a wave of change in global culture. It explores and celebrates attributes we treasure in our lives like sensuality, courage, listening, awe, the sacred, friendship, mothering, homes, and our bodies and reimagines them as tools for rewilding.

His book and thinking have created an invaluable pathway toward restoring the natural world and liberating the pursuit of human endeavors so that they not only cause no harm to our environment but actively help it to thrive.

As Attenborough explains, our generation will be remembered with deep affection and gratitude if we rise to the challenge our time has given us.

Imagine a planet of natural thriving, the same one we inherited from our ancient ancestors but filled with innovation and progressive ideas that bring us forward. There is no reason we cannot expand, expound and fulfill within the boundaries of the laws of the natural world. We have renewable energy, innovation, empathy, and vision. I've made these works to inspire myself and hopefully you, that rewilding is your greatest gift, to yourself and the Earth.

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