

HELENA LA ROTA LÓPEZ



@hlarotalopez

Helena La Rota López is a multidisciplinary artist based in Queens, NY. Born and raised in Bogotá, Colombia, she emigrated to pursue an artistic education – first studying Liberal Arts at Sarah Lawrence College (BA 2016), then obtaining an MFA in Painting and Anatomy at the New York Academy of Art (2019). She currently practices printmaking at the Art Students League, works at her studio in Ridgewood, and teaches painting at Montclair State University.

Helena's work is a tightrope walk between clinical and romantic. She fuses diverse expressive languages into an organic web of painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, and performative installation featuring her musical and choreographic compositions. Her research stems from the body: as architectural construction in anatomy; as symbol in folklore and mythology; as the bearer of our ancestors' history and as vessel when storytelling; but mostly as a sensorial portal linking our minds to our surroundings. She questions the social definitions that trap our bodies into states of otherness through her Bestiary project.

La Rota López is a recipient of residencies and awards, including the Cuttyhunk Island Artist's Residency, the Woodward Spring Guest Residency, the Kraczyna Studio Summer Printmaking Residency, as well as scholarship and research awards from the aforementioned academic institutions. Her work has been exhibited in the US and Italy, including group shows at Collar Works, DFN Projects/Equity Gallery, the Susquehanna Art Museum, and the Colombian Consulate. She was interviewed for *STIRworld* magazine and *Paradise Palase*, and has been depicted in *National Geographic*, *Artists Magazine*, and *barganews*.