



# When Dinosaurs Roamed the Wetumpka Impact Crater

February 20, 2015 – April 18, 2015

KFMG

KELLY FITZPATRICK MEMORIAL GALLERY

Riverview Gallery

*Karen Carr*

*To view these or additional images by Karen Carr,  
please visit her on the web at [karencarr.com](http://karencarr.com)*

408 SOUTH MAIN STREET | WETUMPKA, ALABAMA 36092 | [KFMG-ONLINE.ORG](http://KFMG-ONLINE.ORG)



More than 85 million years ago, during the Cretaceous Period, a large meteor impacted the area now known as Wetumpka, Alabama. The impact resulted in a crater approximately five miles in diameter causing significant changes to both the landscape of the area and the inhabitants of both land and sea. At that time, the Wetumpka area was largely covered by an inland sea with barrier islands, and the climate was very different from today. This impact crater is regarded as one of the best preserved marine impact craters in the world.

The exhibition includes large scale paintings, iron sculptures, exhibition models, fossils, plants and a series of oversized educational storyboards outlining much of the scientific research about the crater area. The exhibition also features the work of Karen Carr, Jerry Armstrong, Rick Spears, Jonathon Hughes, Wayne Atchison, Larry Percy and Asher Eilben. Additionally, the exhibition includes a juried exhibition of 65 kindergarten through grade twelve student work and a juried exhibition of 35 adult artists from throughout Alabama.

Major funding provided through a grant awarded to the KFMG by the Alabama State Council on the Arts, which is made possible through funding from an annual appropriation by the Alabama State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. This public support enables the Kelly Fitzpatrick Memorial Gallery to reach new audiences, foster community development, provide high quality programming, and demonstrate the importance of the arts as a component for quality of life in Alabama. Additional support provided by the City of Wetumpka, the Wetumpka Impact Crater Commission, the Kelly Fitzpatrick Memorial Gallery and Wind Creek Casino.



Major Funding Provided by:

Alabama State Council on the Arts and National Endowment for the Arts

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Gallery Hours:** Monday through Friday from 9am – 4pm, Saturday 10am - 3pm

**Docent Guided Tours:** Thursday and Saturday between the Hours of 10 am until 3pm.

**Student Reception and Award Ceremony:** Thursday, March 5, 2015 from 3:30 – 4:30

**Adult Reception and Award Ceremony:** 5:00 – 6:30 pm

**Annual Crater Lecture:** Thursday, March 5, 2015 @ 7pm

(Dr. David King@ the Wetumpka Civic Center)

**Annual School Crater Tours:** Friday, March 6, 2015

**Annual Public Crater Tours:** Saturday, March 7, 2015

**“Choose to Know” Saturday Lectures** that are associated with the exhibition “When Dinosaurs Roamed: The Wetumpka Impact Crater” at the Kelly Fitzpatrick Memorial Gallery. All Saturday lectures are free and open to the public and will be presented in the Kelly Fitzpatrick Memorial Galley. Saturday lectures begin at 11am.

- February 21, 2015 @ 11 am - "Alabama's Remarkable Biodiversity and Paleobiodiversity." June Ebersole of the McWayne Science Center, Birmingham Alabama
- February 28, 2015 @ 11 am - Meteorites and Art, Jerry Armstrong, Cosmic Artist, Atlanta Georgia
- March 5, 2015 @ 7pm – The Science of the Wetumpka Impact Crater, Dr. David King, Auburn University Professor of Geology at the Wetumpka Civic Center
- March 21, 2015 @11am - Artists Talk, Geologically Speaking: The Kerygma Series, Larry Percy, Associate Professor of Art of Troy University, Troy, Alabama
- March 28, 2015 @ 11 am - Dana Ehret of the Alabama Museum of Natural History, the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, “New Fossil Finds for the Alabama Museum of Natural History”
- April 11, 2015 @ 11 am - Art and Science and Making It Up As I Go Along: How to Create Paleo Restoration Models. Rick Spears of the Fernbank Science Center, Atlanta, Georgia
- Friday, May 1, 2015 @ 11:30 am - Artists Talk, The Work of Karen Carr: International Wildlife and Natural History Artist of New Mexico



Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Wildlife and natural history artist Karen Carr has displayed her artwork, in both traditional and electronic media, in publications, zoos, museums and parks across the United States, Japan and Europe. Her most recent works include major illustration projects and publications for the Smithsonian Institution, the Audubon Society, Random House, HarperCollins and others, and she has authored or illustrated more than a half-dozen recent books for young readers. While at The University of Texas at Austin, Karen studied natural sciences and physics in addition to her studies in art. While there, Karen received a prestigious Ford Foundation scholarship in recognition of her illustration and life-drawing skills. Karen completed her baccalaureate studies with a Bachelor's of Fine Arts degree from North Texas State University.



For more information about Karen Carr and her work please visit: [karencarr.com](http://karencarr.com)







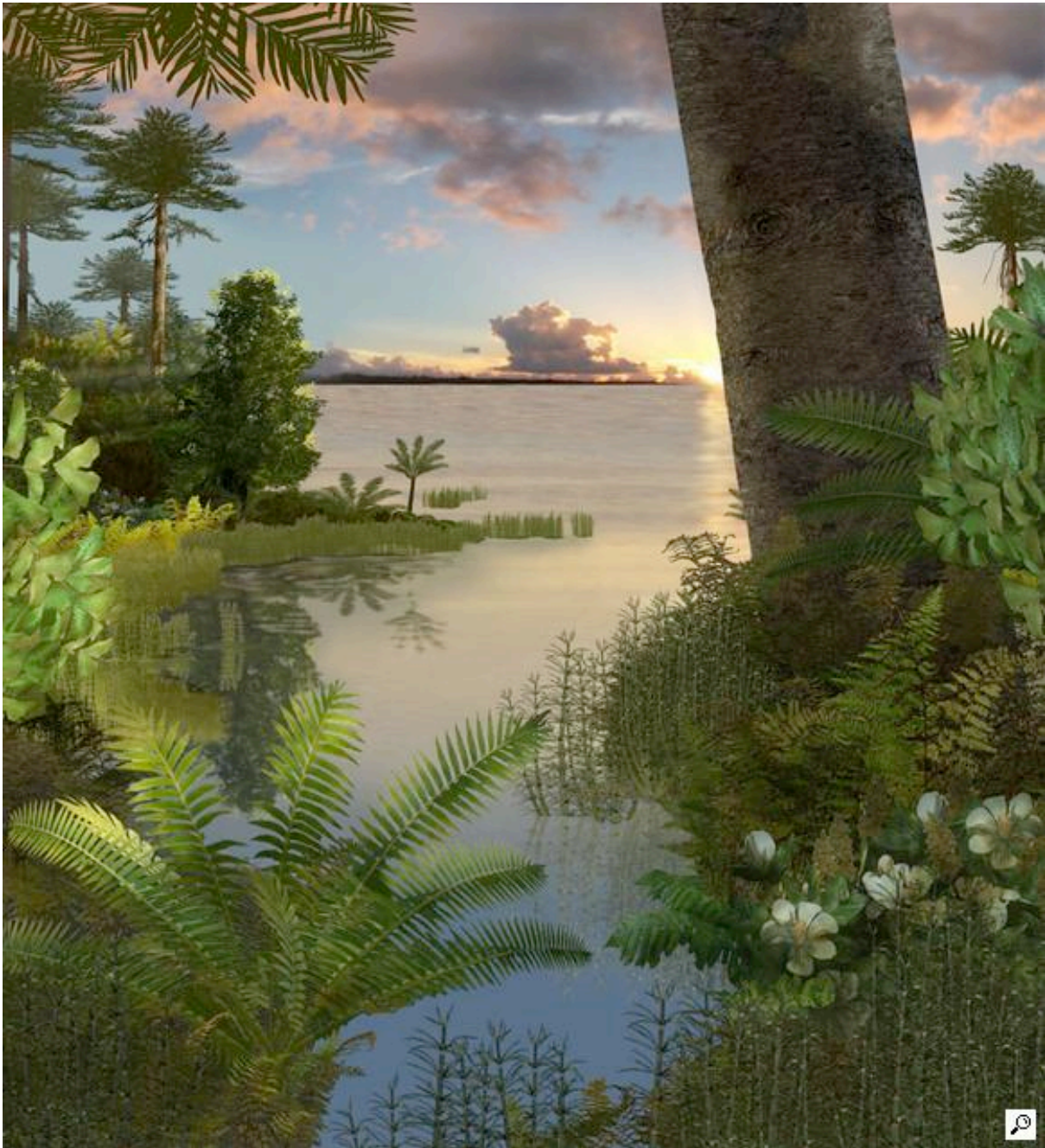
Top Left: Karen Carr and Betsy Shelton and Dr. Craig Shelton

Top Right: Ebba Dunn and Karen Carr experimenting with augmented reality.

Above: Karen Carr and the KFMG Docents

Left: Karen Carr with Marilee Tankersley (Wetumpka Impact Crater Commission), Hope Brannon (KFMG Curator) and Mark Harris (KFMG Director)





Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

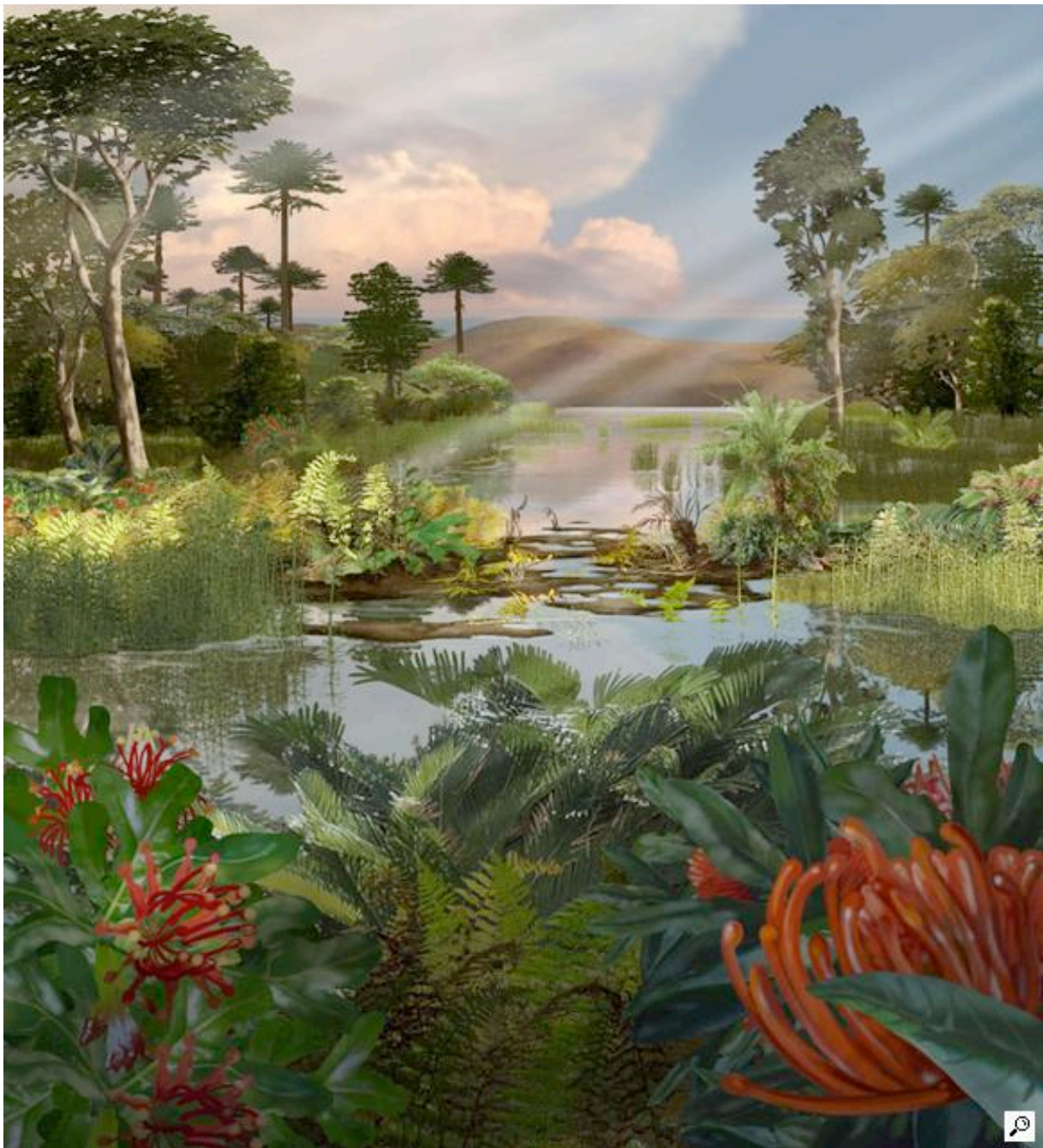
42" w x 46" h

Geologic Period: Cretaceous

Australian Museum Plant Community

Pictured: ferns, benettitaleans, seed-ferns, angiosperms, araucarians, ginkgoes, treeferns, horsetails





Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

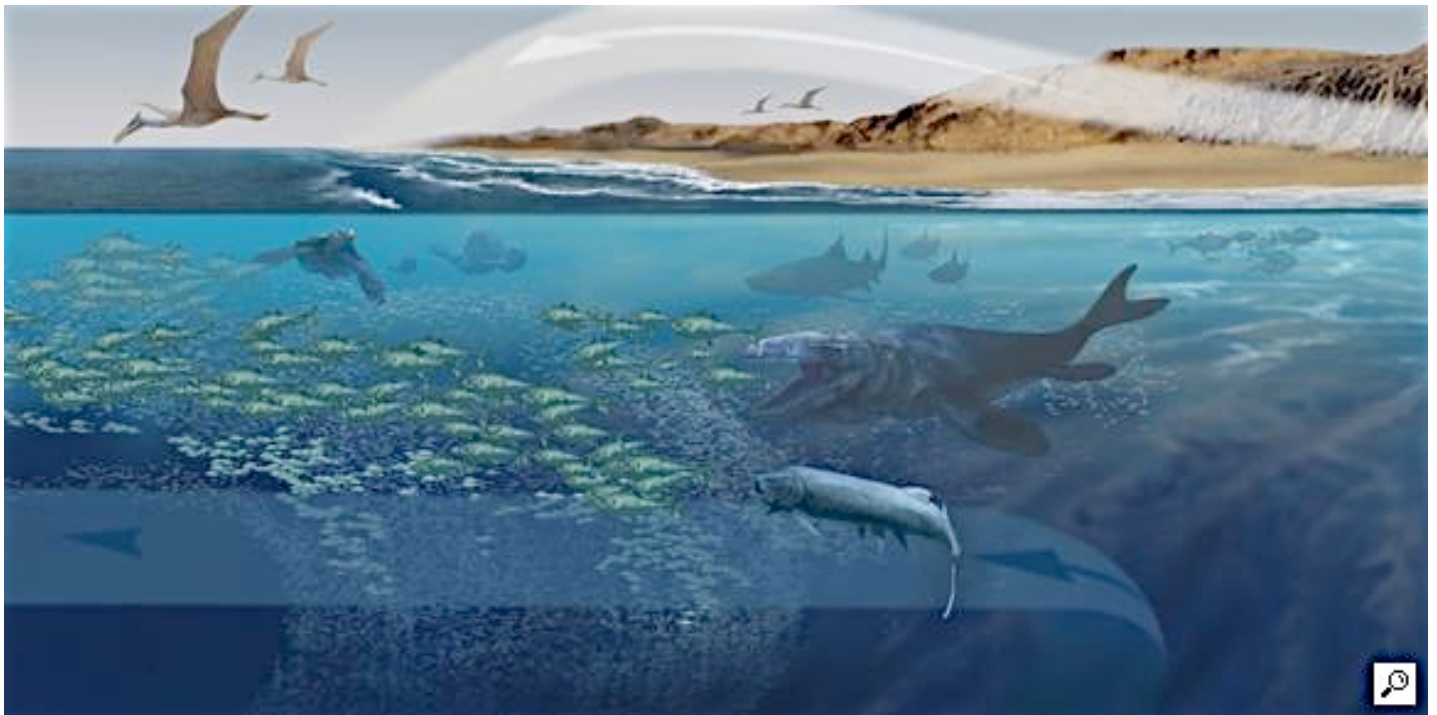
Digital Painting

42" w x 46" h

Geologic Period: Cretaceous

Australian Museum Plant Community

Pictured: angiosperms, gymnosperms, nothofagus, araucarians, podocarps, cycads, proteacea, flowering plants, stenocarpus



Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

30" h x 56" w

Geologic Period: Cretaceous

Angolan Oceanic Upwelling Community

Pictured: Cretaceous mosasaurs, sharks, ammonites, pterosaurs, fish and other animals from the South Atlantic, off the coast of what is now Angola.

About this image:

The underlying mechanisms driving the incredible marine productivity seen today in Angola were established early in the geological history of the coastal areas. Driven by coastal winds, currents from the ocean floor call upwellings brought cold nutrient-rich water to the surface, feeding plankton that is the foundation of the food chain. As it is today, the upwelling areas in the ancient sea were full of shellfish, sea urchins, snails, crabs and small fish, providing nutrition for larger fish and animals. High in the ancient food chain were the reigning predators of the time, the mosasaurs and plesiosaurs.





Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

36" w x 24" h

Geologic Period: Cretaceous

Pictured: *Aetodactylus halli*, a newly described toothed pterosaur

Did you know?

This rare pterosaur -- literally a winged lizard -- is also one of the youngest members in the world of the pterosaur family Ornithocheiridae, according to paleontologist Timothy S. Myers, who identified and named *Aetodactylus halli*. The newly identified reptile is only the second ornithocheirid ever documented in North America, says Myers, a postdoctoral fellow in the Huffington Department of Earth Sciences at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.



Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

72" w x 23" h

Geologic Period: Cretaceous

Cretaceous Coastal Environment

Pictured: Deinonychus, Tenontosaurus, Ornithodesmus and Gobiconodon

About this image:

Part of Karen's Ancient Life Series for The Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, "Cretaceous Coastal Environment" shows a pack of hunting Deinonychus stalking a herd of Tenontosaurus. Overhead, Ornithodesmus sail on coastal breezes.

Although the focus of this mural is clearly on the dinosaurs and the flying pterosaurs, look also for Gobiconodon, a primitive mammal from a group of animals called Amphilestids. Small and somewhat resembling an opossum, Gobiconodon is known from fossils found both in Mongolia and the western United States.

Karen's mural is also richly illustrated with plants of the Cretaceous Period, including magnolia, cycads, tree ferns and water lilies.

Karen's Ancient Life Series for The Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History was selected in juried competition to appear in the Communication Arts annual illustration issue. A juried panel from among thousands of entries worldwide selects images.





Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

24" h x 41" w

Geologic Period: Cretaceous

Cretaceous Marine Environment

Pictured: Mosasaur, Pleisiosaur, Hesperornis, Protostega, belemnites, nautiloids, crabs, starfish and Xiphactinus

About this image:

One of Karen's most popular works, "Cretaceous Marine Environment" shows a host of Cretaceous underwater life, including a mosasaur hunting ammonites. Also featured are a long-necked Pleisiosaur, a loon-like Hesperornis and the turtle Protostega.

Displayed at The Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, "Cretaceous Undersea Environment" also gives a hint of the tremendous variety of life that existed but that rarely attracts the attention of Hollywood cinema: schools of belemnites and nautiloids, seafloor-dwelling crabs and starfish, and Xiphactinus, a Cretaceous fish somewhat resembling today's tarpon.

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Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

120" w x 33.5" h

Geologic Period: Cretaceous

Texas Cretaceous Coastal Landscape

Pictured: Tenontosaurus, Hypsilophodont, Deinonychus, Titanosaur, Glyptops, Goniopholidid crocodile, Semiontid fish

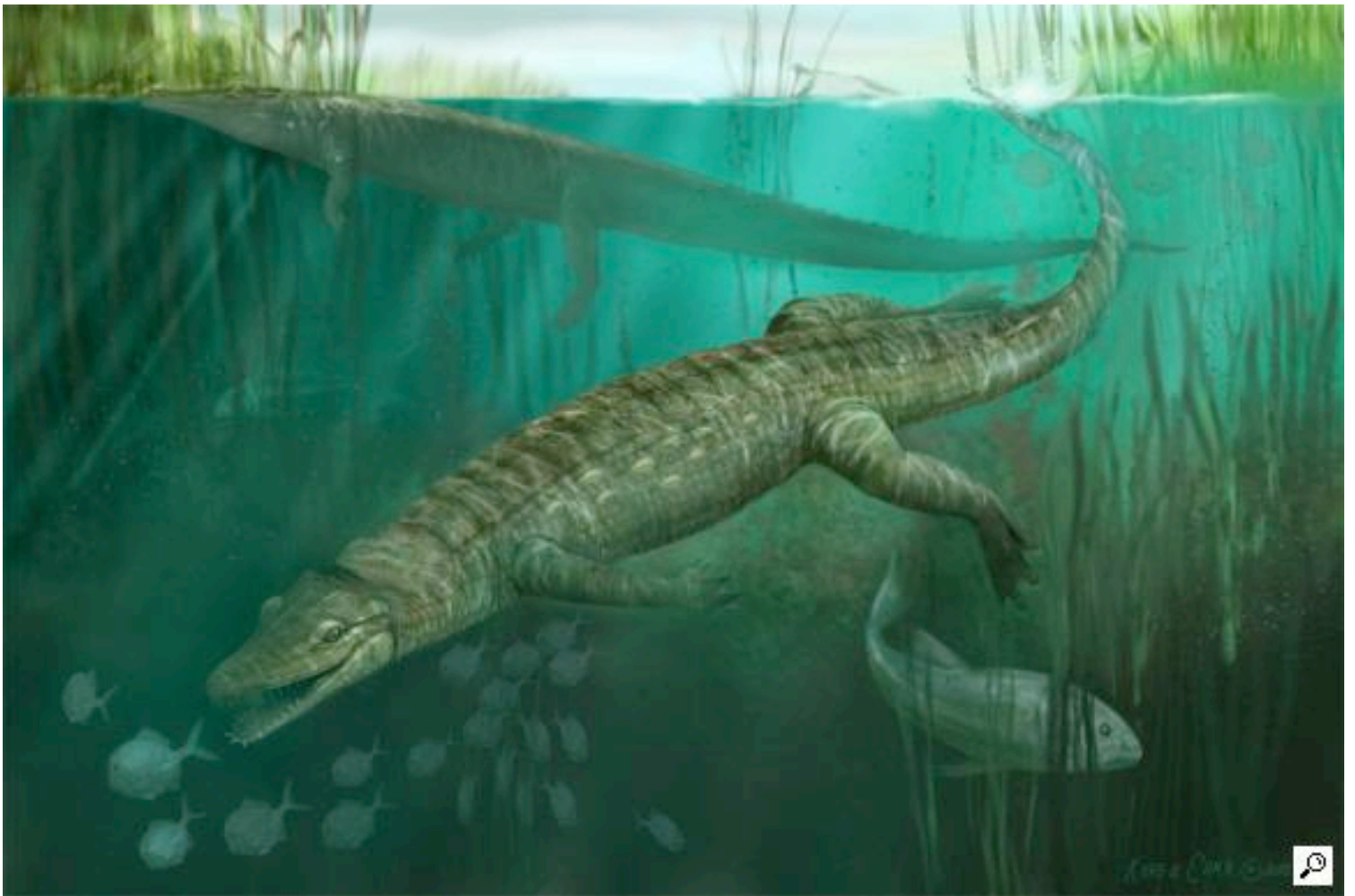
About this image:

Towering dinosaurs, rare fossils and virtual paleo-habitats are just a few of the features that make the T. Boone Pickens Life Then and Now Hall a must-go destination for dinosaur lovers, fossil collectors or just about anyone who has ever wondered what life was like when dinosaurs roamed the Earth.

Inside the 11,000-square-foot exhibition space within the Perot Museum of Nature and Science, you'll discover awe-inspiring fossil finds like the infamous predator *Tyrannosaurus rex* or the plant-eating *Alamosaurus*. You'll also discover how plants and animals have adapted to changing conditions over the millennia — and you'll have the chance to introduce beneficial adaptations of your own as you create a virtual animal to do battle in our videogame challenge

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Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

24" h x 36" w

Geologic Period: Cretaceous

Pachycheilosuchus

Pictured: Pachycheilosuchus



Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

15" w x 12" h

Geologic Period: Cretaceous

Feathered Deinonychus

Pictured: A feathered Deinonychus, whose name means "terrible claw."

About this image:

Deinonychus have been included in many of Karen's murals and are among her favorite animals to paint: They're fierce-looking, sleek and always popular with kids. In the years Karen has been painting, the understanding of Deinonychus has increased, and Karen now shows the animals feathered... but if you look through her web site, you will find other, earlier versions representing the "featherless" reconstruction!

Did you know?

Deinonychus remains are often found close to those of the herbivorous Tenontosaurus, suggesting there was a close predator-prey relationship between these two Cretaceous animals.

Notes:

This image appears in the new Dino Store at the American Museum of Natural History.





Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

24" w x 10" h

Geologic Period: Cretaceous

Dinosaur Hunt pages 4 and 5

Pictured: Juvenile Acrocanthosaurus

About this image:

Karen's book, "Dinosaur Hunt," is a fascinating illustrated glimpse into the lives of ancient animals, and features one of the most famous predator-prey confrontations from the Cretaceous.

"Dinosaur Hunt" recounts the confrontation between Acrocanthosaurus and Pleurocoelus along a Cretaceous shoreline more than 65 million years ago. The fossilized footprints from this confrontation are preserved to this day, and can be seen at Dinosaur Valley State Park, in Glen Rose, Texas.

"The intriguing perspectives add drama and immediacy, and the author pushes the limits of the digital media providing impressive detail, for example, the play of light on the mottled textured skin of the giants. This will be a crowd pleaser." — Kirkus Reviews



Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

30" h x 46.5" w

Geologic Period: Cretaceous

Dinosaur Society Hadrosaur

Pictured: Hadrosaur

About this image:

Karen was lucky enough to be on hand when bones for this animal were being recovered near D/ FW Airport—and unlucky enough to break one of the creature's ribs when helping to take it out of the ground!





Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

60" w x 23" h

Geologic Period: Cretaceous

Didelphodon: Egg Thief

Pictured: *Didelphodon vorax*



About this image:

Didelphodons were possum-sized mammals of the late Cretaceous, with special teeth for crushing and grinding. Their heavy build may indicate they lived in underground burrows, like modern foxes or badgers.



Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

36" w x 25.5" h

Geologic Period:

Cretaceous Citipati

Pictured: Citipati, an oviraptor

About this image:

Fossil specimens of Citipati found in Mongolia provide a fascinating look into the lives of ancient animals: Several fossil individuals have been found preserved as they sat on their nests, brooding their eggs. This evidence of nesting is one of the many links connecting modern birds with dinosaurs.

Did you know?

Although the family name for Citipati, Oviraptoridae, means "egg thief," it is possible oviraptors have had a bad rap, at least in part: Early finds of oviraptor fossils were near fossilized eggs, and the 'raptors were thought to be egg thieves. It is possible they were, but it is also possible the eggs they were found near were their own.





Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

24" w x 29" h

Geologic period: Cretaceous

Archaeofructus

Pictured: Archaeofructus

About this image:

Archaeofructus is a water plant from the early Cretaceous, and based on its distinctive structures it is considered one of the earliest known flowering plants.

Did you know?

Dating of Archaeofructus places it right at the boundary of the Jurassic and Cretaceous, at about 125 million years.

Notes:

Read more about this amazing find here: [Early Cretaceous Archaeofructus eoflora sp. nov. with Bisexual Flowers from Beipiao, Western Liaoning, China](#)



Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

15" w x 7.5

Geologic Period: Cretaceous

Angolatitan

Pictured: Angolatitans and pterosaurus

About this image:

Angola's first dinosaur was discovered in 2005, about 35 miles north of Luanda. This new species of sauropod, named *Angolatitan adamastor*, is one of the few occurrences of its kind in sub-Saharan Africa in the Late Cretaceous.

Did you know?

Does the site of a large herbivore tracking across a dry desert surprise you? Today, African elephants occupy the same area in much the same climate, so which the desert conditions may have been harsh, *Angolatitan* found ways to survive then as the elephants do now.

Notes:

*Angolatitan* was about 40 feet long, and lived 90 million years ago.





Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

24" w x 7.5" h

Geologic Period: Cretaceous

Big Bend T. Rex portrait alternate detail



Pictured:

Tyrannosaurus Rex, Quetzalcoatlus and Pleurocoelus

Notes:

Tyrannosaurus Rex's six-inch teeth have been described as looking like "lethal bananas" because of their size and curved shape. But while Rex was undoubtedly fierce, carrion and scavenging may have supplied some of his — or her — diet.

Karen's "Big Bend T. Rex" captures a moment in the Cretaceous Period of what is now far west Texas, in the area known as Big Bend. In addition to Rex, Karen's mural includes Quetzalcoatlus, the giant aviators of the Cretaceous skies, and herds of Pleurocoelus, appearing both as a grazing herd in the background as a T. Rex main course in the foreground.



Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

24" w x 10"h

Geologic Period: Cretaceous

Dinosaur Hunt pages 36 and 37

Pictured: Acrocanthosaurus and Acrocanthosaurus eggs in next

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Karen Carr

Riverview Gallery

Digital Painting

48" w x 25" h

Geologic period: Permian

Audubon Insectarium: Wall 2, Ancient Life Mural

About this image:

Audubon Insectarium will be the largest museum in the United States devoted to the 900,000+ known species of insects and their relatives. It will be an encounter with nature like no other featuring thousands of live insects, mounted specimens, interactive experiences and engaging exhibit interpreters.

Located in 23,000 sq. ft. of exhibit space in the U.S. Customs House in New Orleans Audubon Insectarium is a member of Audubon Nature Institute's family of museums and parks dedicated to nature including Audubon Zoo, Audubon Park, Audubon Aquarium of the Americas, Entergy IMAX® Theatre, Woldenberg Riverfront Park, Audubon Louisiana Nature Center, Audubon Center for Research of Endangered Species, Freeport-McMoRan Audubon Species Survival Center and Audubon Wilderness Park.



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