





CRAFT:
TAXIDERMY



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AFTER AN ANIMAL PASSES OF A NATURAL DEATH, IT MAKES IT'S WAY TO THE TAXIDERMIST IN A RELATIVELY NARROW WINDOW OF TIME PRIOR TO THE START OF THE DECAYING PROCESS

THE ANIMAL IS PLACED IN A LARGE-SCALE FREEZER

THE TAXIDERMIST REMOVES THE SKIN AND WASHES THE HIDE THOROUGHLY

ANATOMICAL STRUCTURE AND KEY MEASUREMENTS SUCH AS THAT OF THE EYES AND FACIAL FEATURES ARE NOTED

THE NEW BODY FORM IS RESCULPTED OF FOAM OR WOOD USING THE MEASUREMENTS FROM THE ORIGINAL BODY

AFTER THE SKIN HAS BEEN WASHED, TREATED, AND TANNED, IT IS SECURED BACK ON THE BODY IN A HIGHLY METICULOUS PROCESS

FUR AND FEATHERS ARE PLACED EXACTLY INTO POSITION DURING THE FINISHING PROCESS, WHICH CAN TAKE WEEKS

ONCE THE SKIN IS DRY, THE ANIMAL IS TOUCHED UP WITH DETAILED PAINT WORK OR AIRBRUSHING

THE PROCESS







“In effect, you are simply taking the jacket off the creature in its entirety. If you do it properly there is no blood and no odour. People think it is cruel and gruesome, but it is neither.”

Ferry van Tongeren
DARWIN, SINKE & van TONGEREN

FINE TAXIDERMY
DARWIN
SINKE
van
TONGEREN
CREATING AND COLLECTING
“SINCE 1975”





“To me, the whole natural world is fascinating, it always has been and it’s devastating that we’re trashing it at the rate we are- the only way a good [taxidermist] can work is to have a great love and respect for the beauty of the world’s creatures.”

Mike Gadd
“The misunderstood craft of taxidermy”
YORK PRESS