



Ariel Braverman
Artist Statement

“How often people speak of art and science as though they were two entirely different things, with no interconnection. An artist is emotional, they think, and uses only his intuition; he sees all at once and has no need of reason. A scientist is cold, they think, and uses only his reason; he argues carefully step by step, and needs no imagination. That is all wrong. The true artist is quite rational as well as imaginative and knows what he is doing; if he does not, his art suffers. The true scientist is quite imaginative as well as rational, and sometimes leaps to solutions where reason can follow only slowly; if he does not, his science suffers.” Isaac Asimov “Prometheus,” *The Roving Mind* (1983)

Ariel’s work deals with the relationship between human intuition and scientific hypothesis. Borrowing from the conventions of sequential art and data informatics, she develops graphic narratives in which storytelling is layered within a network of tangential information and visual errata.

Her most recent series of drawings is an attempt to reconcile the rational nature of scientific exploration with the emotional and physical limitations of our human-ness. We can know, factually, that Earth spins at a rate of just over 1000 miles per hour, but we as human beings cannot feel this spin. A person can know that the atom is mostly comprised of empty space, but a person can’t put their hand through a sheet of iron and feel what atomic space feels like. We, as human beings, can comprehend the rational data that tells us how the physics of our universe operate, but we cannot feel these principles on a sensory, intuitive, or emotional level.

These drawings (Light/Dark; New/Old; Up/Down; Right/Left; Fast/Slow; Big/Small) deal with themes of the artificial vs. natural landscape and appropriate imagery from the visual motifs of computer algorithms, engineer’s schematics, astronomy guides and science textbooks to create a series of graphic, visual networks, which, like maps, position the individual within our rational and emotional understandings of our universe.