

INSECT IMAGES



Alexandra Bowers, *Grote's Glassy Wing Moth*
wood burning drawing, 10 inches x 10 inches



Charles Kazilek, Tiger Beetle
photograph on canvas, 31 inches x 45 inches



LOOK carefully at these **images** (pictures) of insects by Charles Kazilek and Alexandra Bowers. Can you see the moth's legs? Can you see the beetle's covered wings? Which insect has a smaller head? How are their **antennae** different? Why do you think an artist would choose an insect as subject matter?

LEARN that both Bowers and Kazilek have been exploring nature and making art since they were children. As a child, Bowers hiked, camped out, and started a rock **collection** when she was five. She also drew and painted, later studying drawing at Arizona State University. Bowers is now a working artist. Kazilek remembers getting muddy exploring streams and wetlands in his neighborhood as a child. He also painted and sculpted, and his interest in photography led him to study science. He has two **degrees** from ASU; one in fine arts, the other in natural science. He is now the Chief Technology Innovation Officer at ASU.

What do you like to study? Could you bring your interests in science and art together? How?

COMPARE the two images of insects. Both Bowers and Kazilek photographed insects in an ASU insect collection. Bowers used her photographs as references for her wood burning. In **Photoshop**, Kazilek moved insect parts into position, removed dust, and filled in a hole in a wing cover where the beetle had been pinned in place for display and storage.

Both images are **realistic**, but in different ways. Which do you think is most realistic? Why?

INTERPRET: Bowers says she makes her work to inspire "people to go out and observe what's naturally beyond our suburban neighborhoods and backyard walls." Kazilek's image is one of over 300 photo **illustrations** in a book called *A Field Guide to the Tiger Beetles of the United States and Canada*.

Bowers and Kazilek made their insect images for very different reasons; how do you **INTERPRET** each? Chose one of the insect images; how would you describe its feeling or mood?

friendly bold scientific gentle quiet scary other _____

On the back of this paper answer these questions: What about the image gives you that feeling or mood? How do you think art might change how you see or experience nature?