

ANIMALIA CARIBE

2026 · Twelve plates · Loli Mari Montalvo

Animalia Caribe is my love letter to the creatures of the islands, painted the way the Caribbean actually feels — hot, saturated, alive at the edges. Each animal is worked in mixed media, letting oil, acrylic, and watercolor argue on the surface so the paint stays physical: thick palette-knife ridges, drips, a background that fractures into pure color. The coquí, the flamingo, the iguana, the manatee, the tody, the gallo — guardians and messengers of island folklore — emerge out of that abstract ground rather than sit in front of it. The palette is fixed on purpose: gold ochre and burnt orange against deep teal, with a vivid magenta note running through the series like heat. It is fauna as feeling — the Caribbean not observed from outside, but painted from inside its own light.



Coquí

01 / 12



Caribbean Flamingo



Green Iguana



Antillean Manatee

04 / 12



Crested Hummingbird



Rainbow Parrotfish



Brown Pelican



Hawksbill Turtle



Blue Land Crab



Puerto Rican Tody



Puerto Rican Boa



Criollo Rooster

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