

LIGHT & DARK



2822 E. 17th Avenue
Denver, CO 80206

February 4-20, 2022

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Opening reception Friday, February 4, 6-10pm

"However vast the darkness, we must supply our own light" — Stanley Kubrick

"Maybe you have to know the darkness before you can appreciate the light" —
Madeleine L'Engle

Bell Projects presents *LIGHT & DARK*, a two-person exhibition featuring the abstract work of local artists Denise Dundon and Chris Olejniczak. This exhibition opens Friday, February 4th and runs through February 20th, 2022. Please join us for an opening reception on February 4th from 6pm until 10pm.

Examining the classic duality of light and dark that is present in the visual perception of our surroundings – morning & night, light & shadow, the sun & the moon – as well as our conceptual understanding of the world and our lives within it – whether it be joy & sorrow, happiness & sadness, and the highs & the lows. Is darkness the absence of light? And what about the gray area in between – sunrise & sunset, dawn & dusk, melancholy, calmness, tranquility. We consider this duality in each of these cases – the physical and formal quality of the artistic materials and media used to create contrast, depth, and texture within a painting, as well as the conceptual layer as we contemplate the good and the bad that arise in our daily lives. Each artist plays with this duality to create a certain mood or tone in their works, inviting the viewer to experience this opposition for themselves.

Driven by her passion for creativity and art, **Denise Dundon** keeps searching for new ways and techniques to express herself. At this time, she does this through digital art as well as using acrylics, water-soluble oils, and alcohol inks. Denise loves using the computer to generate all types of textures, colors, and compositions. She also enjoys creating fluid art using alcohol inks and fluid acrylics. There is a sense of the unexpected that emerges when using fluid paints. In either case, the resulting paintings are always unique and one of a kind.

When Denise creates art, she looks for compositions that are eye-catching and dramatic. She likes using bright, saturated colors in her paintings to invoke a mood that's exciting and vibrant – this is so the subject can be seen in the best light possible. In many cases, Denise is inspired by nature to create the art that she does.

For **Chris Olejniczak**, creative self-expression is and has always been a very important part of his life. Being able to take his inner life experiences, thoughts, and emotions and transmute them into something sensory and shareable gives Chris both purpose and catharsis. These specific works stem directly from that need for healing and therapeutic release. Chris's contribution to this show is meant to embody the dark side of a light/dark contrast and he has approached this through an emphasis on texture, and a heavy presence of black. Although his work represents the dark, there are subtle hints of color throughout to maintain a microcosm of light/dark in each piece. These works are very process-heavy and full of emotion. They are meant to be experienced from different angles and under many types of lighting. Chris's method of creating allows for the organic chaos of the mediums to unfold naturally and in alignment with a particular feeling or mood. The materials involved in creating this series were: alcohol ink, sumi ink, liquid watercolor, acrylic based paints, and construction spackle on mixed media board, paper, and cradled wood panel.

Denise Dundon is an emerging, self-taught artist from Arvada, Colorado. She began painting more than twenty years ago using traditional oil paints and creating mostly landscapes. Through the years, Denise has branched out into other mediums and subjects. Her work allows her to explore new techniques and to see nature and abstract artwork in a diverse, exciting, and inspiring light.

Chris Olejniczak (he/him) is an artist and musician from Denver (now living in Littleton, Colorado) whose creative expression is firmly rooted in the realm of the abstract. Whether it be music, visual art or more tactile experiments, he is constantly evolving to create ever more expressive ways. He's a self-taught artist who began creating as early as 4 years old and finds inspiration in observing textures, colors, and sounds that surface in daily life. He creates with an emphasis on the emotive experience of art.

Bell Projects seeks to support local artists and their work by curating and presenting exhibitions on a monthly basis in their gallery space located at 2822 E. 17th Avenue, Denver, Colorado 80206. All exhibitions are free to attend and are open to the public.

For more information, please email info.bellprojects@gmail.com or visit bell-projects.com



1.
Denise Dundon
Distant Mountains
 Archival digital on canvas
 24x24"



2.
Chris Olejniczak
The Ghosts of You
 Alcohol ink, spray paint, Sumi ink, and
 watercolor on mixed media board
 16x12"
SOLD



3.
Chris Olejniczak
All is Full of Love
 Alcohol ink, spray paint, and acrylic paint
 on mixed media board
 16x12"
SOLD



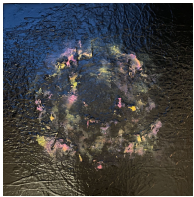
4.
Chris Olejniczak
This Disappearing World
 Alcohol ink, spray paint, acrylic paint,
 Sumi ink, and watercolor on mixed
 media board
 16x12"



5.
Denise Dundon
Opalescent
 Archival digital on canvas
 30x20"



6.
Denise Dundon
Nomad
 Archival digital on canvas
 24x24"



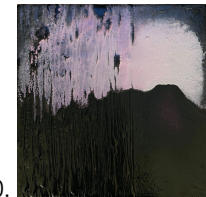
7.
Chris Olejniczak
Of the Abyss
 Alcohol ink, spray paint, acrylic paint on
 cradled wood panel
 24 x 24"



8.
Chris Olejniczak
Dauðalogn
 Alcohol ink, spray paint, and acrylic
 paint on cradled wood panel
 7x5"
SOLD



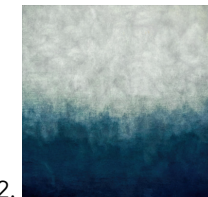
9.
Chris Olejniczak
Lips of Ashes
 Alcohol ink, spray paint, and acrylic paint
 on cradled wood panel
 12x12"
SOLD



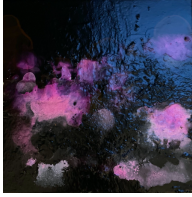
10.
Chris Olejniczak
And I Return to Nothingness
 Alcohol ink, spray paint, and acrylic
 paint on cradled wood panel
 8x8"
SOLD



11.
Chris Olejniczak
Cloud of Unknowing
 Alcohol ink, spray paint, and acrylic
 paint on cradled wood panel
 16x12"
SOLD



12.
Denise Dundon
Fathomless Depths
 Archival digital on canvas
 30x30"



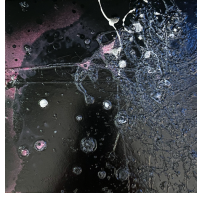
13.

Chris Olejniczak

Pink Moose

Alcohol ink, spray paint, and acrylic paint on cradled wood panel
8x8"

SOLD



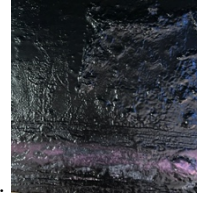
14.

Chris Olejniczak

Becoming Nobody

Spray paint, acrylic paint, alcohol ink, and watercolor on cradled wood panel
6x6"

SOLD



15.

Chris Olejniczak

Numb

Alcohol ink, spray paint, and acrylic paint on cradled wood panel
6x6"

SOLD

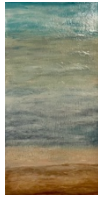


16.

Chris Olejniczak

What do I do with the Void in your Shape

Alcohol ink, spray paint, and acrylic paint on cradled wood panel
8x8"

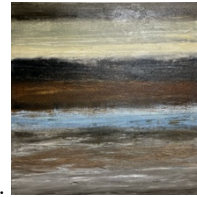


17.

Denise Dundon

Far Off Lands

Acrylic on canvas
24x12"



18.

Denise Dundon

Splendid Mirage

Acrylic on canvas
20x20"



19.

Chris Olejniczak

Dissolving Light pt. 4

Alcohol ink, spray paint, and acrylic paint on cradled wood panel
8x8"

SOLD



20.

Chris Olejniczak

Dissolving Light pt. 2

Alcohol ink, spray paint, and acrylic paint on cradled wood panel
8x8"



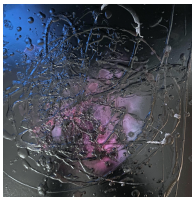
21.

Chris Olejniczak

Dissolving Light pt. 3

Alcohol ink, spray paint, and acrylic paint on cradled wood panel
8x8"

SOLD



22.

Chris Olejniczak

Dissolving Light pt. 1

Alcohol ink, spray paint, and acrylic paint on cradled wood panel
12x12"

SOLD

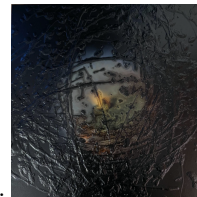


23.

Denise Dundon

Out to Sea

Archival digital on canvas
32x48"



24.

Chris Olejniczak

7.83 pt. 1

Acrylic paint, spray paint, and alcohol ink on cradled wood panel
12x12"

SOLD



25.

Chris Olejniczak

7.83 pt. 3

Acrylic paint, spray paint, alcohol ink on
cradled wood panel

8x8"

SOLD



26.

Chris Olejniczak

7.83 pt. 2

Acrylic paint, spray paint, alcohol ink on
cradled wood panel

8x8"

SOLD