

THE DOG SHOW



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2822 E. 17th Avenue
Denver, CO 80206

May 4 - June 2, 2024

Saturdays & Sundays 12-5pm, or by appointment

Opening Reception Saturday, May 4, 6-10pm
Special Programming every Saturday 10am-2pm

Bell Projects presents – **The Dog Show** – a group exhibition featuring 35 local and national artists: Miguel Aguilar, Julio Alejandro, Emmanuel Balderrama Moreno, Edith Ann Beier, Lindsey Kathleen Bell, Madi Brunetti, Manuel Cordero, Dani Cunningham, Rick Dallago, Brady Dollyhigh, Jack Estenssoro, Taylor Faulkner, Fouhy, Ian Guerra, John Hazekamp, Paul Kenneth, Navya Mallepeddi, Laramie McHugh, Kiera McIntosh, Zach Miners, Philip Newsome, Holly Nordeck, Markus Puskar, Christy Pyle, Eve Rose, Colin Ruff, Gregory Santos, Isadora Shepard, River Smith, Matt Tripodi, Kaitlyn Tucek, Brandon Vargas, Chloe Wilwerding, Kaitlin Ziesmer, and Ravi Zupa.

The Dog Show opens Saturday, May 4 and is on view through June 2, 2024. Please join us for an **opening reception on May 4th from 6pm until 10pm.**

This group exhibition presents a diverse selection of artworks that celebrate the enduring presence of dogs within art history, seen here in unique and surprising ways.

From ancient cave paintings to contemporary masterpieces, dogs have been revered subjects in art, symbolizing loyalty, companionship, strength, contentment, bravery, and power. This exhibition showcases a variety of mediums, including painting, sculpture, installation, drawing, fiber art, and mixed media works, each capturing the multifaceted roles that dogs play in our lives, and a variety of interpretations of the theme.

Through humor, nostalgia, grief, and reverence, artists invite viewers to explore the profound connection between dogs and humans. *The Dog Show* offers a unique perspective on the enduring significance of dogs in both art, as well as modern human culture and society, reflecting on our own cherished moments with their four-legged companions and the roles that dogs play within our lives.

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

Miguel Aguilar

Dogs have always had a close relationship with humans. They bring smiles and comfort to people since the beginning of their domestication. Showing the bond in this painting was the most important to me.



Julio Alejandro & Brady Dollyhigh

Brady: "Maybe that dog can be taking a piss?"

Julio: "No, I think that would look trashy"

Brady: "I mean that dog's taking a shit, but peeing is too far"

(both laugh)

Emmanuel Balderrama Moreno

Dogs, much like humans, over the course of their lives become attached to objects that bring them comfort. In this case a sweater, Lola would've rather died than go the day without wearing it. Opting to try to bite your hand off if you tried to take it off her.



Edith Ann Beier

Lifelong lover of stitching things together. I love dogs.

Lindsey Kathleen Bell

The title, *Embedded*, refers to the integration of my dogs Ruby and Cricket in every aspect of my life, and the pervasiveness of their fur on everything I own. Creating something as useful and utilitarian as paper, but rendered useless as a writing surface feels apropos to the unconditional love they exude, always there for me, and supportive in many ways yet living rent free as domesticated companions and not living up to their "working dog" titles. The amount of fur that will forever live in the fibers of my clothing and floorboards of my car is more than worth it for the tail wagging enthusiasm they exhibit every time I walk through the front door.



Madi Brunetti

This work is an exploration of the dog as a predator and the stunning brutality of survival.

Manuel Cordero

Dogs are always a representative figure in my work, accompanying human figures in everyday scene, painted and drawn in primitive forms

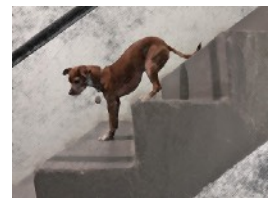


Danielle Cunningham

Drawing on themes of abjection, this work glamorizes excrement - an artifact that intimately reveals the relationship between humans and dogs. Humans keenly observe this bodily detritus as an indicator of well-being, whereas it is the source of universal ire when it unfortunately meets feet or shoes. Dogs can't help but sniff (sometimes eat) their refuse as well as that which belongs to others, often inspiring the human gag reflex. Ultimately this work signifies both human and doggy valor: to be a good dog, one must go outside; to be a good human, always remember to bring a bag.

Rick Dallago

I used to make fun of dog people-- until I got a dog. I swore I'd never put clothes on the dog, feed him human food, allow him on the furniture... blah blah blah. That lasted a week. Now I make fun of myself. Becoming a dog owner transformed my life in ways I could never predict. I am so grateful to have Kevin in my life.

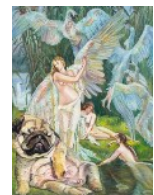


Brady Dollyhigh

The painting depicts a dog made of human heads and where the dog's head would be a black mask is painted over top.

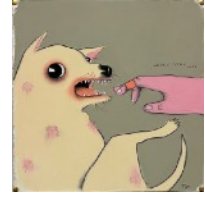
Jack Estenssoro

Starting in 2015 oil painting became his primary medium of choice. Jack Estenssoro is a self-proclaimed Neo-Surreal-Realist. Estenssoro's work deals with the complexity of ordinary, contemporary life that may be overlooked because of a sense of banality. Estenssoro instead finds great inspiration in such topics and explores why such themes are of great importance to the zeitgeist.



Taylor Faulkner

The little dog is a complex creature, wanting to curl up at your feet while biting off your toes. This piece is an ode to the history of the chihuahua. Who once hid inside saddle bags waiting to bite the fingers off the people trying to steal what's inside.



Fouhy

'His Favorite Spot' is a tribute to Zipper. Utilizing photos from his Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/zippdawg>) and the 100's of other photos I have of him through the years, I will create a video that will play on a TV placed in his favorite spot on his favorite couch.

Being a friend to so many in the art community here in Denver 'His Favorite Spot' will give us all one more opportunity to sit and hang with Zipp.

Ian Guerra

As a hyphenated American, my art is a reflection of my identity and a mixture of processes. My art relates specifically within the context of Central America and the United States. Much of my work has been examining familial relationships throughout my family tree and creating narratives that would otherwise be forgotten. When I became interested in looking into my genealogy, I would often run into issues concerning research. In El Salvador, there are poor genealogical records and family lineage often relies on word of mouth and memories of others. This has led me to attempt to create a more concrete and reliable means to establish a landmark of memories on both sides of my family through my art. I. This work reflects Salvadoran Folklore and is a painting of the Cadejo. The Cadejo is a spiritual animal that takes the form of a dog, either in black or white. The black Cadejo is an embodiment of evil and is known for its red eyes. This spectral being is seen as a malevolent and ill-intentioned force among people. To throw a spotlight is to examine the means and reasons behind this legend, and ultimately pose the question of why this folklore diffuses amongst people.



John Hazekamp

"Meditation For Moose" ...one lovable Pyrenean Mastiff.

As man's best friend, we love our canines as deeply as we do every other family member. When sickness takes hold, we do for them, as we would an offspring of our own. Thus was the case in a happenstance

meeting of MOOSE where a deep connection ensued; much the same as most other connections for us energy working empaths. Upon being told of Moose's health issue, my urge to do something more to help him beyond the parting gesture given just short of my driving away.

Immediately I recognized the universes' handiwork at play; I learned long ago to stay constantly vigilant to this type of synchronicity that comes your way when you least expect it. Needless to say, I immediately got to work, first by reaching back out to Moose's owner for a favorite photograph. From there I was off and running.

The foundation / background for this energized design comes from a piece done back in 2019, Chakras1906 (containing Chakras and Reiki symbol design elements), to which I've overlaid the image of Moose. All my artwork is done with the intention of channeling Reiki energy to the subject which is further enhanced courtesy of a sympathetic audience.

Paul Kenneth

My artistic exploration focuses on the theatrical performance of mark-making. Quick gestural marks dance around intricately rendered representations. Sweeping brushstrokes become animated and develop personalities through delicately drawn graphite outlines. Upon first glance, the figurative subjects in my work appear as the leading roles with the marks and materials playing the rest of the cast. Time spent with the work will reveal the pictorial hierarchy turned on its head. The figures begin to undulate in and out of abstraction as the attention to the marks takes center stage. The resulting image hovers in playful flux between abstraction and realism.



Navya Mallepeddi

My first pet and companion, Idli, is a source of endless inspiration. Through the journey of teaching myself how to draw, she's been a readily available but fast moving model. This piece is a 3 figure composition of her different expressions - alert, yawning and bored. She and I have similar temperaments.

Navya Mallepeddi

Our dogs carry a lot of burden - from living in a human world to guarding the house, from chasing squirrels to giving emotional support and looking cute while doing all that! They deserve all the rest they can get. This piece is a sketch of my rescue pup cuddled up and getting some sleep - at home.





Laramie McHugh

Two white wolves rest atop a cliff, their figures adorned with dynamic splashes of art deco- inspired colors, a vibrant testimony to the unbridled harmony of nature's palette. Against the majestic backdrop of Montana's rugged landscapes, a serene lake glistens below, cradled by the undulating embrace of the surrounding mountains, their contours softened into blurred strokes of vibrant hues that harmonize with the wolves' own colorful adornment.

In a tender display of affection, the wolves embrace, their noses touching in a poignant depiction of profound connection and unwavering love. Amidst the untouched wilderness, where the tranquility of their habitat remains unblemished by the concerns of humankind or the shadows of predators, the wolves exude a palpable sense of serenity and contentment. Their bond transcends the confines of the canvas, a testament to the enduring strength of soulmates immersed in the unspoiled beauty of Montana's untamed expanse, where every hue and stroke whispers a timeless ode to the enduring harmony of nature's eternal dance.

Kiera McIntosh

The title, originally quoted from Sylvia Plath's poem "Medusa", plays on women's relationships with each other, the world, and historical tropes depicted here as two violently barking poodles.



Zach Miners

This is a film photograph of a hike with my old family dog, Rufio, who has since passed.

Philip Newsome

I always try to capture the personality and intelligence of every animal I paint. I like to paint animals to show that they do in fact have personality and intelligence.





Holly Nordeck

My work often deals with themes of the abject, materiality, and our relationship to animals in relation to place. I'm interested in reconstructing common materials while using specific content matter to create contrasting elements in my work. This work plays on those notions by reconstructing my dog's fur to act as the material to form a vessel. This vessel serves as a means to hold, protect, and contain teeth from my dog that needed to be extracted ethically at an expensive price, ultimately making them of high value. Not only does this act as a vessel, but this piece pays homage by using materials sourced from the dog I care most about most in the world, Bruce.

Markus Puskar

My practice is centered around the observation and replication of organic form. The forms I paint and draw are taken from the movement of the natural world, whether it be the path that water follows, the floating of a leaf, or the way that a flower grows. Each movement presents a rhythm and a harmony that I attempt to bring out in my linework and mark making. By utilizing repetition of organic forms and movement, I hope to create a living, breathing quality to my work.



My work has recently derived inspiration from spiritually centered folk art, in which divinity can be expressed by the simplest forms. In the case of "Cosmic Wieners", I am using the very real awe that I have for these incredible specimens to show my adoration.



Christy Pyle

This painting is of my nephew's farm in Yampa, Colorado. Their dog Sadie keeps everyone safe.

Eve Rose

In classical mythology Cerberus was a creature to fear. The iconography of this great beast who guards the gates of the underworld is often depicted as a terrifying three-headed dog, a creature that is ferocious and cruel in nature. In contrast Corgis by nature are herding dogs bred to shepherd, protect, and guide. My interpretation of this mythical creature is not based in the fear of the underworld and the desire to escape it. This Corgerus is your guardian there to lead you and be a companion through the unknown of eternity.



Colin Ruff

This work was made as an ode to my partner Holly Nordeck, our relationship and interests, and our love for our past and present dogs. Georgie - lab, Tucker - Beagle, and Bruce - Cavalier. Visuals relate to these afore mentioned topics and form an intimate portrait of us and our dogs.

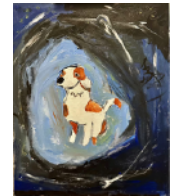


Gregory Santos

Polu was my first dog. I rescued him when he was 7 years old. He was a Catahoula Leopard Dog. Everyone always tried to tell me he was a breed other than what he was. Before he died I had his DNA tested. Turns out he was: 16.7% Border Collie, 14.8% Catahoula Leopard Dog, 13.2% Australian Cattle Dog, 10.9% Siberian Husky, 9.8% American Staffordshire Terrier, 9.8% Samoyed, 8.2% Rottweiler, plus 16.6% Supermutt

Isadora Shepard

My painting is of my wonderful, rambunctious, and playful dog and captures him in his rare moment of calm!



River Smith

My dogs are my best friends, but more importantly, my family. We have a connection that is stronger than many of my human relationships. The joy and love of a dog is like no other, and their unwavering happiness provides a light in our lives that never goes out.

This piece is a memorial for my 2 doggies who grew up with me throughout my child, teenage and adult years. They were the best of buddies always exploring and getting into mischief in the surrounding fields and roads of my former home in rural Texas. Buddy was my buddy! He came to us by chance and wandered up to my house. He was a big boy and could look "scary" to some people, but to our surprise, he was the sweetest and most gentle giant (as well as a great singer too). Bella had been with us for many years prior to Buddy entering our lives. She was the first family dog we had and she had the most loving spirit of any animal I've ever known. I miss my doggies, but they are now endlessly exploring and frolicking in the lands together.

For this piece, I wanted to take elements of where my doggies and I grew up. My dogs loved chewing and gathering up sticks, and there were tons of beautiful, glistening spiderwebs. I gave this piece a very natural, antiqued and ethereal atmosphere. I put my doggies in the space they loved most.



Matt Tripodi

Not all dogs have 4 legs.

Kaitlyn Tucek

With undercurrents of art historical references as well as folk and popular illustration influence, Tucek's work is a fantasia, charged with a queer and feminine sexual energy.

Always pushing the boundaries between drawing and painting, space and time, surreality and reality, chaos and control, Tucek creates fairy tales for viewers to escape into.



Although primarily a painter, Tucek has created surrealist events such as The Dinner Party in September of 2023, and off-site installations like The Lilac Hour in the Ashcroft Ghost Town outside of Aspen, CO. Tucek often writes poetic narratives to parallel her two dimensional bodies of work. Tucek also engages in installation, textile, sculptural, and video and sound work.



Brandon Vargas

This work is an exploration of style and medium and is about the aspect of freeing oneself from the chains or leashes that lead us places. Meant to be a fun, and playful piece, it was inspired by construction fencing around Alto Gallery.

Chloe Wilwerding

My work reflects my interest in big-picture, primordial questions about what it means to be human. Climate change and digital culture feature as two challenges that require redefining what it means to be human and repositioning ourselves in relation to our changing environments. I make 2D, mixed-media works combining textiles, collage, photography, and painting. These brightly-colored pieces, frequently incorporating appropriated or found images, visually fragment our digital environments and the landscape. Through collecting and fragmentation, I hope to reassemble pieces from our information-overloaded, remix culture into a version of wholeness that helps us see and reimagine our place in a changing world.



Merit is a collection of framed merit badges that highlights the small ironies around identifying as a nature lover and how performative nature loving ultimately points back

to our own humanness. The merit badges are mounted on fabric cut from shower curtains printed with images of nature. The badges and shower curtain show how "loving" nature can be commodified and performed.

I started the series shortly after getting a puppy. In the first few months of our lives together, I was entirely exasperated over chewed sneakers and furniture legs, constant barking, and serious potty-training confusion. As I was making work about performative nature loving, I was also frustrated with my puppy for being a dog who wasn't picking up on human manners. I recognized the irony in trying to manipulate this being who wasn't a human into a version that aligned more with my human wants.

Kaitlin Zeisler

After years of painting dogs for other people on a commission basis, I really have only painted a couple "for myself", giving it my absolute all when it comes to pushing the palette, detail, and movement. "Windy" is a dog in motion, exuding happiness in expression and color.



Ravi Zupa

Many years ago, I lived with someone who ran a doggie day-care out of our house. Before that, I didn't have much contact with dogs at all. I had always loved cats and always had them as pets growing up. But during that period it was not uncommon for us to have as many as 11 small dogs in the house at the same time. I learned a lot about many breeds and came to really love dogs. These prints are inspired by the real personalities of actual dogs that I met during that time.



Miguel Aguilar
Bad boy (2024)
 Oil on canvas
 16 x 12"
 \$200



Julio Alejandro & Brady Dollyhigh
Every dog has its day
 Mixed media
 Dimensions Variable
 \$2000



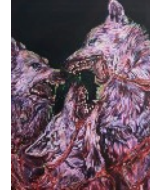
Emmanuel Balderrama Moreno
Lola's Favorite Sweater (2024)
 Acrylic and textile on canvas
 14 x 33"
 \$300



Edith Ann Beier
Dogs are not our whole life... but they make our lives whole (2024)
 Felt, muslin, and thread
 12 x 12"
 \$150



Lindsey Kathleen Bell
Embedded (Ruby and Cricket) (2024)
 Handmade recycled paper, fur
 12 x 16"
 \$200



Madi Brunetti
adhesion (2024)
 Oil on canvas
 40 x 30"
 \$900



Manuel Cordero
Rojo (2024)
 Mixed media
 39" L X 19" H x 10" W
 \$1,200



Danielle Cunningham
Untitled (After a sparkly Shih Tzu) (2024)
 Silicon and glitter on faux moss
 12 x 12"
 \$50



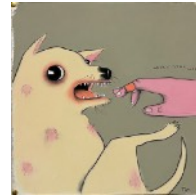
Rick Dallago
Kevin (2024)
 Oil pastel on canvas
 12 x 16"
 \$400



Brady Dollyhigh
Le Chien est Content (2024)
 Oil on road sign
 32 x 36"
 \$650



Jack Estenssoro
Sleeping Pug (2020)
 Oil on wood panel
 30 x 22"
 \$1,609



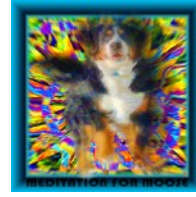
Taylor Faulkner
The Mangy Little Dog (2024)
 Soft pastel and charcoal on paper
 12 x 12"
 \$325



Fouhy
His Favorite Spot (2024)
 Video Installation
 30"H x 36"W x 84"L
 NFS



Ian Guerra
Eyes of the Dog (2024)
 Acrylic and colored pencil on
 wood panel
 15 x 30"
 \$360



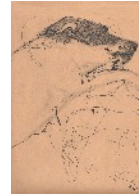
John Hazekamp
MEDITATION FOR MOOSE
 (2024)
 Digital Print
 8 x 8"
 \$200



Paul Kenneth
The Dog-Girl (2023)
 Acrylic and oil on canvas
 10 x 10"
 \$300



Navya Mallepeddi
Idli trio (2023)
 Mixed media on paper
 8.5 x 11"
 \$250



Navya Mallepeddi
At home (2023)
 Charcoal and marker on paper
 12 x 9"
 \$150



Laramie McHugh
Soulmates Embrace (2024)
 Oil, watercolor, and metallic
 paint
 20 x 16"
 \$800



Kiera McIntosh
I shall take no bite of your body.
 (2024)
 Oil on wood panel
 24 x 36"
 \$575



Zach Miners
Rufio, 2018 (2024)
 Silver gelatin print
 16 x 20"
 \$400



Philip Newsome
bassett hound (2024)
 Oil on canvas
 12 x 12"
 \$400



Holly Nordeck
Bruce (2024)
 Dog fur, dog teeth
 3 x 3 x 1"
 \$2000



Markus Puskar
Cosmic Wieners (2024)
 Ink on paper
 14 x 11"
 \$250



Christy Pyle
Keeping watch (2024)
 Oil on canvas
 24 x 18"
 \$200



Eve Rose
Corgerus (2024)
 Acrylic paint on canvas
 24 x 20"
 \$900



Colin Ruff
One dog, two dog, three dog, blue dog. / Doogins Love (2019)
 Collage, India ink, gouache, colored pencil
 12 x 18", NFS



Gregory Santos
Polu (2021)
 Lithography
 8 x 6"
 NFS



Isadora Shepard
Lenny's Calm (2024)
 Acrylic on canvas
 20 x 16"
 \$300



River Smith
Best Buddies (2024)
 Cotton, thread, glass beads, brass wire, branches, gel medium with ink
 16 x 12", NFS



Matt Tripodi
Rawdogging in the Mirror (2024)
 Epoxy dough, garden stake, acrylic, found mirror
 5 x 17 x 4"
 \$800



Kaitlyn Tucek
The Dog That is Marfa (2024)
 Oil, colored pencil on canvas
 16 x 20"
 \$2,000



Brandon Vargas
Trample (2024)
 Aerosol paint, oil paint, and oil stick on canvas
 12 x 12"
 \$300



Chloe Wilwerding
Merit I: I Tamed a Beast (2021)
 Digital embroidery, found fabric
 15 x 13"
 \$275



Kaitlin Zeisner
Windy (2024)
 Acryla gouache on wood panel
 18 x 24"
 \$1,750



Ravi Zupa
Inside Voice (2024)
 3 Color print, mounted on wood
 8 x 5.5"
 \$45