

# enJOY

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**August 5-27, 2023**

Saturdays & Sundays 12-5pm,  
or by appointment

**Opening reception Saturday, August 5, 6-10pm**

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*Bell Projects* presents – **enJOY** – a solo exhibition featuring work by **Steven Morrell**. This exhibition opens Saturday, August 5 and runs through August 27, 2023. Please join us for an **opening reception on August 5th from 6pm until 10pm**.

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Steve Morrell was born just outside of New York City. He studied design at Long Island University, then moved into a career in advertising before returning to his original love of painting. Mostly self-taught, Morrell works mainly in oils, but also uses acrylics, spray paint, or whatever else he feels will help bring his work to life. Steve is currently captivated by the human form, the ultimate vehicle for expression, having infinite shape, shadow, and color. His goal is to create an ethereal sense with his art, to disconnect from everyday societal constructions. By removing clothing, or other artifacts of daily life in the paintings that feature nude figures, the viewer is allowed to focus on the form of the subject versus where they might be from. Even gravity is in question.

The removal of some of these specific indicators creates a timelessness to Morrell's paintings. Though nude portraiture has been used throughout art history, Morrell pushes the subject matter further, dipping into many eras of portraiture to create a style uniquely his own. Romanticism mixes with Impressionism, Neo-classicism, Expressionism, and Mannerism. Color and brushstroke are exaggerated, which imbues intense emotions, energies, and moods. There is a looseness in mark-making and freedom of his subjects that defies the traditional male gaze and embraces the human form in all its glory.

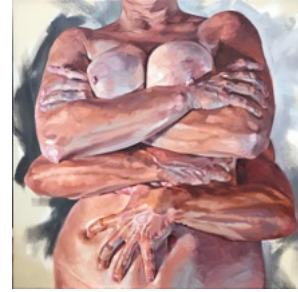
Depicting the female form is a way to express the deepest, darkest corners of the artist's inner world. For Morrell, these images are reflections of shame, fear, greed, hatred, and doubt—turned inside out and transformed. When Morrell paints, he is his most connected, most confident, most present, most powerful self, and that act creates meaning for him in his artwork. Looking at these paintings, is looking at the artist's JOY. Maybe you can feel the same outpouring of love, abundance, and connection when you view them. Maybe that gives you some joy too.



*Wonder Womb*  
Oil, acrylic, and spray paint  
on canvas  
42 x 60"  
\$6000



*Untitled*  
Pencil on Strathmore paper  
23 x 19.5", framed  
\$400



*Come and Get it*  
Oil on canvas  
30 x 30"  
\$4000



*Emerge*  
Oil on canvas  
42 x 46"  
\$4000



*Guilty Pleasure*  
Acrylic on canvas  
24 x 18"  
\$1800



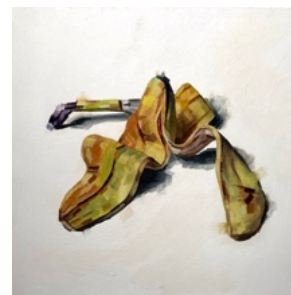
*I Don't Do This for You*  
Acrylic on canvas  
30 x 18"  
\$1800



*Birthday Skate*  
Oil and spray paint on canvas  
30 x 26"  
\$3000



*Still Life of a Water Gun*  
Oil on board  
11.5 x 12"  
\$400



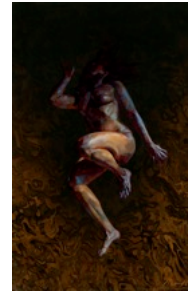
*Whoopsie*  
Oil on board  
12 x 12"  
\$400



*The Object of My Affection*  
 Oil and gold leaf on walnut  
 burl veneer  
 26 x 24"  
**SOLD**



*Winding Down*  
 Oil on paper  
 12 x 12", framed  
 \$500



*Where the Lines Blur*  
 Oil on veneer mounted on  
 board  
 34 x 22"  
 \$3500



*Yay!*  
 Oil on walnut burl veneer  
 mounted on plywood  
 24 x 24"  
 \$3000



*Girl, Erupted*  
 Oil and acrylic on paper  
 mounted on wood  
 30 x 20", framed  
 \$3500



*Untitled*  
 Oil on plywood  
 46 x 48"  
 \$6000



*Water Quality*  
 Oil on board  
 18 x 24"  
 \$1500



*Big Momma*  
 Oil on canvas  
 48" diameter  
 \$6000



*Can Somebody Gimme a  
 Push?*  
 Oil and acrylic on canvas  
 50 x 28"  
 \$3700

prints: \$70  
 t-shirts: \$35  
 stickers: \$6