

# In the Weeds

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**November 3 - 26, 2023**

Saturdays & Sundays 12-5pm,  
or by appointment

**Opening reception Friday, November 3, 6-10pm**

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Bell Projects presents – ***In the Weeds*** – a solo exhibition featuring multi-media work by **Claudia Borfiga**. This exhibition opens Friday, November 3 and runs through November 26, 2023. Please join us for an **opening reception on November 3rd from 6pm until 10pm**.

*In the Weeds* brings together works in a variety of media; textiles, print, pulp painting, and ceramics. Raised on the outskirts of London and now residing far from her hometown, Claudia grounds herself by creating work rooted in the landscapes that currently envelop her. These pieces largely document Colorado, but also nod to other places she's spent time this past year.

Mono screen-prints on textiles, made from re-purposed fabric, remnants, and deadstock, are envisioned as wall hangings. These gestural prints are a departure from the meticulously planned process of stencil exposure used previously by Claudia. They allow a more immediate and emotive approach to her work, enabling a deeper immersion for the viewer.

The first of these were printed on the linens of the late Dr. Peter Bullough, whose namesake artist residency she attended in November 2022. 'Clouds', in particular, is envisioned as a headboard, to be hung above the space where we dream, perhaps influenced by the material's former life. The prints are framed architecturally, by cushioned and hand-quilted borders, softening the edges of our living environments.

While Claudia refrains from depicting human indicators within the landscapes she portrays, she is conscious that we observe them with human perspective. This can be seen most keenly through her ceramics, where she teeters between the utterly natural, celebrating unglazed clay bodies moulded into organic shapes, and the distinctly human, in her building of man-made archways. The colors used are observations of locally growing lichen, in particular the bright chartreuse of *Pleopsidium*, which is applied loudly to some of the forms.

In her experimental pulp paintings, Claudia continues to explore similar imagery to that of her wall hangings, but with more varied scale. She was introduced to the process at the beginning of 2023, whilst on a residency at Women's Studio Workshop, and found somewhat of a home there. With no prior experience, and no expectations, she felt the freedom to play and create instinctually. During this process you create a base (or new sheet of paper), upon which you 'paint' using pigmented cotton pulp fibers, to form your artwork. Through the drying process, your imagery becomes embedded within the paper, retaining a tactile quality that Claudia finds to be emotionally evocative.

This body of work speaks to a deep engagement with the present moment. A documentation of Claudia's immersion in nature, growth, and time spent meditatively hiking. Her curiosity and observations are translated into tactile dreamscapes, coming together playfully with radiant colors. She embraces the joy of being deeply absorbed by place and process, and encourages viewers to step into the weeds alongside her.

**Claudia Borfiga** is a visual artist, born in 1989 in Greater London, UK. She graduated with a BFA in Textiles Design from Loughborough University. She relocated from her homeland for California in 2017, and now resides in Denver, USA. As a teaching artist, Claudia uses screen print workshops as tool to foster community and for the simple joy of getting other peoples hands messy. She has attended artist residencies across the USA, and continues to exhibit in both Europe and the States.



1. **Aspen Grove** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
20 x 16"  
\$480



2. **The Overlook** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
20 x 16"  
\$480



3. **Garden of the Gods** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
20 x 16"  
\$480



4. **Autumnal Sky** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
20 x 16"  
\$480



5. **Turning Fields** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
20 x 16"  
\$480



6. **Chartreuse Arch** (2023)  
Glazed stoneware  
\$200



7. **Eldorado Canyon** (2023)  
Wall hanging: mono screen-print  
with hand quilted border  
29 x 24"  
\$520



8. **RMNP** (2023)  
Wall hanging: mono screen-print  
with hand quilted border  
29 x 24"  
\$520



9. **Little Orchids** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
14 x 11"  
\$200



10. **Eggs** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
14 x 11"  
\$200



11. **Coneflowers** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
14 x 11"  
\$200



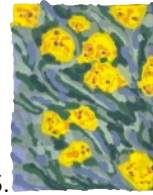
12. **Orchid Party** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
32.5 x 24.5"  
\$1200



13.  
**Little Eggs** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
14 x 11"  
\$200



14.  
**Pink Poppies** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
14 x 11"  
\$200



15.  
**Sea of Yarrow** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
14 x 11"  
\$200



16.  
**Meadow** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
32.5 x 24.5"  
\$1200



17.  
**Cloud One** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
18 x 24"  
\$600



18.  
**Cloud Two** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
18 x 24"  
\$600



19.  
**Clouds** (2023)  
Wall hanging: mono screen-prints  
with hand quilted border  
32 x 57"  
\$1200



20.  
**Holy Vessel 1** (2023)  
Stoneware, watertight  
\$220



21.  
**Views on views** (2023)  
Stoneware  
\$360



22.  
**Holy Vessel 2** (2023)  
Stoneware, watertight  
\$220



23.  
**Bashed Arch 1** (2023)  
Stoneware  
\$160



24.  
**Bashed Arch 2** (2023)  
Stoneware  
\$180



25.  
**Bashed Arch 3** (2023)  
Stoneware  
\$180



26.  
**Vessel with Shelf** (2023)  
Glazed stoneware, spray paint,  
watertight  
\$360



27.  
**Lichen Vessel 1** (2023)  
Glazed stoneware  
\$240



28.  
**Lichen Vessel 2** (2023)  
Glazed stoneware  
\$240



29.  
**Double Arch** (2023)  
Glazed stoneware  
\$260



30.  
**Wooded Virginia** (2023)  
Wall hanging: mono screen-print  
with hand quilted border  
24 x 21"  
\$480



31.  
**Aspens, blue** (2023)  
Wall hanging: mono screen-print  
with hand quilted border  
30 x 27"  
\$600



32.  
**Chartreuse Mirror** (2023)  
Glazed stoneware, mirror  
\$140



33.  
**Lilac Mirror** (2023)  
Glazed stoneware, mirror  
\$140



34.  
**Wild Mirror** (2023)  
Glazed stoneware, mirror  
\$140



35.  
**Alpine Daisy** (2023)  
Wall hanging: mono screen-print  
with hand quilted border  
10 x 10"  
\$120



36.  
**Summit Lakes** (2023)  
Wall hanging: mono screen-print  
with hand quilted border  
52 x 44"  
\$1000



37.  
**Iceland** (2023)  
Pulp Painting  
32.5 x 24.5"  
\$1200



38.  
**Alpine Lake** (2023)  
Screen Print, 4 layers, Edition of 25  
20 x 16" Framed, \$140  
14 x 11" Unframed, \$80



39.  
**Aspens** (2023)  
Screen Print, 4 layers, Edition of 25  
20 x 16" Framed, \$140  
14 x 11" Unframed, \$80



40.  
**Bookend 1** (2023)  
Stoneware  
\$180



41.  
**Bookend 2** (2023)  
Stoneware  
\$180