

TYGER TYGER GALLERY

New Exhibition Set to Open at Tyger Tyger Gallery

Place and Wonder Opens November 18th

ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA (October 11, 2022) –*Place and Wonder* is the latest exhibition presented at Tyger Tyger Gallery in Asheville’s River Arts District. The showing features five American artists whose work explores the things we know and cannot entirely know about a place - real, imagined, or remembered - accessing humor, amazement, mood, and narrative to poetic representations of landscape and direct observation. *Place and Wonder* opens Friday, November 18th with an opening reception from 5pm-8pm. The exhibition is on view through January 8th, 2023.

If ‘The Upside-Down’ from Netflix’s *Stranger Things* featured contemporary paintings on the walls, New York artist **Barbara Friedman’s** images of characters from Gumby and Pinocchio stories, reimagined as giants invading dystopian suburban spaces, might be a perfect fit. Calling them “unreliable narrators” and “uninvited guests”, Friedman works in oils with a neon-to-smoky palette, saturated stains and marks conjuring an otherworldly glow.



Barbara Friedman, *Under The Rainbow With Gumby*, oil on linen

David Skinner’s narrative paintings are similarly situated in an atmosphere of isolation, oddness, and ambiguous metaphor. Referencing folklore, frontiers, longing, masculinity, and technological evolution, they remix elements removed from linear time, combining color fields with intuitive scrawls and rendered forms. A separate body of work consists of observation-based landscapes depicting quiet, unassuming scenes in Virginia, Ireland,

California, and North Carolina, where Skinner lives and works, recalling the color-rich geometry in paintings by artists like Lois Dodd and Wolf Kahn.

Entering a world that is brighter, airier, and a little wild, North Carolina artist **Melanie Norris'** paintings feature looping, notational marks and washes on paper and canvas with collaged elements. From drive-by tent revivals on the side of a country road to portraits of people close to her, they evoke summertime, some strangeness, and a degree of tenderness and intimacy.

Selene Plum, an artist who recently relocated to Asheville after living and working in Chicago and Wisconsin, works with oil paint and hot wax on panels and pieces of repurposed wood. In her *Blue Ridge* series, simple landscapes are anchored by the line of the horizon and the things occurring below and above it, with grooves and planes of oil paint carved into the wax to suggest plants, water, hills, and sky. Her recent and ongoing series entitled *Moon Mudras* is more abstract, contemplating the earth, the stars, and the moon painted on pieces of weathered tobacco and barn wood. Plum's paintings are meditations about outdoor spaces observed, lived deeply in, and felt. Put in her own words, "...the bone structure of this landscape and everything beneath it."

Brooklyn artist **Barry Hazard's** self-titled 'sculpture paintings' dramatically project from the wall so that they start flat from the top, transition to relief, and become entirely 3-D in the foreground. Miniature figures, animals, houses, and other elements populate scenes of wide-open natural spaces such as glaciers, canyons, meadows, and waterfalls. Forming a dioramic catalog of the natural world and our inhabitation of it, Hazard's works merge as a reckoning between art history, our relationship with nature, and environmental crises through a visual experience that requires the viewer to inhabit a childlike, wonder-filled way of seeing.



Barry Hazard, Paddling Upstream, Acrylic, wood on panel with figure and frame, 35" x 35" x 9"

Mira Gerard, co-curator of this exhibition along with Melissa Crouch, shares "The artists in this exhibition make work about experiences, characters and spaces that are immediately familiar, but conceived and presented in surprising ways."

Place and Wonder is on view through January 8th, 2023.

About Tyger Tyger

Tyger Tyger Gallery is a woman-owned and led gallery committed to exhibiting emerging and established regional, national, and international artists, with a recurring emphasis on those who have been traditionally marginalized in the art world. Tyger Tyger Gallery is located in a recently renovated, 5,000 square foot space in Riverview Station, 191 Lyman Street. Co-Directors Mira Gerard and Melissa Crouch bring their collective and significant experience in the arts to this endeavor.

The Gallery is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 am-6pm and Sundays from 11am-5pm. To learn more visit www.tygergallery.com and follow them on Facebook and Instagram @tygergallery.

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