

COLLEEN CRITCHER

CONSOLATION PRIZE

KASSAB GALLERY 2024





THE CONSUMER IS OBEDIENT NO. 1
GRAPHITE AND GOUACHE ON ARCHES
8 X 8 INCHES
\$250



THE CONSUMER IS OBEDIENT NO. 2
GRAPHITE AND GOUACHE ON ARCHES
8 X 8 INCHES
\$250



KEEP YOUR FRIENDS CLOSE. NO. 2
GRAPHITE AND GOUACHE ON PAPER
5 X 5 INCHES
\$200



KEEP YOUR FRIENDS CLOSE NO. 1
GRAPHITE ON PAPER
8 X 8 INCHES
\$200

COLLEEN CRITCHER CONSOLATION PRIZE



FIRST BORN UNICORN NO. 1
GRAPHITE ON BRISTOL
10 X 8 INCHES
\$250



FIRST BORN UNICORN NO. 2
GRAPHITE ON BRISTOL
10 X 8 INCHES
\$250



REX STUDY
GRAPHITE ON BRISTOL
11 X 7 INCHES
\$250



SAVANNAH REX
GRAPHITE ON BRISTOL
9.5 X 7.5 INCHES
\$250



STUDY FOR THE DINNER PARTY NO. 1
GRAPHITE ON PAPER
8 X 11 INCHES
\$300



STUDY FOR THE DINNER PARTY NO. 2
GRAPHITE AND GOUACHE ON PAPER
8 X 11 INCHES
\$300



DINNER STUDY
GRAPHITE ON BRISTOL
8.5 X 11 INCHES
\$300

COLLEEN CRITCHER CONSOLATION PRIZE



SELF-PORTRAIT WITH GNOMES
GRAPHITE ON BRISTOL
11 X 8 INCHES
\$400



SELF-PORTRAIT WITH GNOMES (2)
GRAPHITE ON PAPER
11 X 8 INCHES
\$400



SELF-PORTRAIT WITH REX
GRAPHITE ON BRISTOL
11 X 8 INCHES
\$400



SELF-PORTRAIT WITH UNICORN
GRAPHITE ON BRISTOL
11 X 8 INCHES
\$400



DOUBLE GNOME
GRAPHITE ON BRISTOL
15 X 15 INCHES
\$500



REX
GRAPHITE ON BRISTOL
15 X 15 INCHES
\$500



MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN
GRAPHITE ON PAPER
15 X 13.5 INCHES
\$500



THE ULTIMATE CONSUMER IS NEVER
LATE FOR DINNER
GRAPHITE AND ACRYLIC ON PANEL
24 X 24 INCHES
\$1500



MINE, ALL MINE (STUDY)
GRAPHITE ON PAPER
23 X 16 INCHES
\$750



TO HAVE AND TO HOLD (STUDY)
GRAPHITE ON PAPER
23 X 16 INCHES
\$750



THE VALUE OF NOTHING AND EVERYTHING
GRAPHITE ON PAPER
23.5 X 16 INCHES
NFS



ONE AND ONLY (STUDY)
GRAPHITE ON PAPER
23 X 16 INCHES
\$750

ARTIST BIO

COLLEEN CRITCHER IS A VISUAL ARTIST FASCINATED BY COMMODITY CULTURE, KITSCH, AND PLASTIC THINGS. HER ARTWORKS OBSESSIVELY EXPLORE IMAGES OF MYSTICAL GARDEN GNOMES, UNICORNS, AND DINOSAUR FIGURES AS SHE INVESTIGATES THE POWERFUL SIGNIFICANCE OF SEEMINGLY MENIAL IMAGES REVEALED IN CONTEMPORARY LIFE.

COLLEEN CRITCHER HOLDS AN M.F.A. IN PAINTING FROM SAVANNAH COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN. AFTER A DECADE OF UNIVERSITY TEACHING AND GALLERY ADMINISTRATION, SHE CURRENTLY MAINTAINS A PAINTING AND PRINTMAKING STUDIO IN SOUTH CAROLINA. HER WORKS HAVE BEEN SHOWN AT REDUX CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER, KAI LIN ART, GUTSTEIN GALLERY, AND 701 CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART. SHE HAS BEEN FEATURED BY THE JEALOUS CURATOR, CREATE MAGAZINE, AND PXP CONTEMPORARY.



ABOUT CONSOLATION PRIZE

WHAT IS A DRAWING? FOR SOME IT IS THE FINAL STEP, THE END GOAL. IN MY PERSONAL CREATIVE PURSUITS IT IS THE PRELIMINARY STEP – THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF STEPS TOWARDS PHYSICALLY MANIFESTING A CREATIVE IDEA AFTER IT REVEALS ITSELF. WHEN A DRAWING IS MERELY PART OF THE ARTIST’S PROCESS, IT IS OFTEN STOWED AWAY OUT OF SIGHT AND RARELY MEETS A VISITOR. WHILE SORTING THROUGH STUDIO INVENTORY, I RECENTLY DISCOVERED THAT SOMETIMES A STACK OF DRAWINGS IS ALL I HAVE LEFT OF A SERIES ONCE THE PAINTINGS HAVE GONE OUT INTO THE WORLD. THEY ARE A LOVELY CONSOLATION PRIZE OF SORTS.

I FIND THE SIMPLICITY AND EPHEMERAL QUALITIES OF DRAWINGS TO BE MOST INTRIGUING. PAPER AND PENCIL, OR PAPER AND SIMPLE PIGMENTS ARE GENERALLY ONE OF THE FIRST MEANS THAT WE USE TO EXPRESS OURSELVES. LONG BEFORE WE DEVELOP SOPHISTICATED SPOKEN LANGUAGE, WE CAN MOVE CRAYONS OR WATERCOLORS AND MAKE MARKS. WITH VERY LIMITED MEANS A DRAWING CAN EMERGE. IT REQUIRES NO SPECIAL TRAINING, NO FANCY MATERIALS OR TOOLS. THIS EXHIBITION IS THE FIRST TIME I HAVE DISPLAYED ONLY DRAWINGS FOR A SOLO EXHIBITION. THEY EXPRESS IMPERFECTION, IMPERMANENCE, AND A DELIGHTFUL KINSHIP TO THE MANY PAINTINGS I HAVE MADE ABOUT CONSUMER CULTURE OVER THE YEARS.

COLLEEN CRITCHER



ARTIST STATEMENT

IT DOES NOT MATTER WHERE YOU COME FROM OR WHAT YOUR INCOME EXCEEDS. AS A CULTURE WE ARE SURROUNDED OUR THINGS - OR AT THE VERY LEAST THE THOUGHTS ABOUT THE THINGS - THE ONES WE NEED OR THE ONES WE WANT. THE THINGS PASS US BY IN SEMI-TRUCKS, LINE THE SHELVES OF TARGET, FILL THE GLOSSY WINDOWSCAPES OF LUXURY BRANDS, AND CATCH YOUR SCROLLING SOCIAL EYES. WE ARE CONFRONTED BY THE THINGS IN EVERY FORM AND FASHION AVAILABLE: IN PERSON, ON YOUR PHONE, ON PAPER, THROUGH THE RADIO WAVES, AND VIA THE INFLUENCERS WHO TEACH YOU WHAT YOU DO NOT ALREADY POSSESS. THE THINGS CONSUME OUR EVERYDAY. WE THINK WE CONSUME THEM, BUT AREN'T THEY REALLY CONSUMING US? HAPPY COLORED OBJECTS ARE EVERYWHERE, READY FOR US TO TAKE THEM HOME.

MY WORKS OBSESSIVELY EXPLORE IMAGES OF POP CULTURE - GARDEN GNOMES, UNICORNS, AND DINOSAUR FIGURINES - AS I ATTEMPT TO INVESTIGATE THE POWERFUL SIGNIFICANCE OF SEEMINGLY MENIAL OBJECTS IN CONTEMPORARY CULTURE. USING REPETITIVE IMAGERY AND NARRATIVE, I PROJECT MYSELF AND FAMILY AS CHARACTERS IN BIZARRE STORIES OF CONSUMERISM. EACH PAINTING AND PRINT ADDS TO THE ABSURDITY OF A DEEPLY COMPLICATED CULTURE OF CONSUMING.

COLLEEN CRITCHER

