Spring 2022

Hunting Rabbits

Bones Olson Gilmore
Bard College, kg7563@bard.edu

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Hunting Rabbits

Senior Project Submitted to
The Division of the Arts of Bard College

by
Bones Gilmore

Annandale-on-Hudson, New York
May 2022
dedicated to my parents, Mark and Lucy Gilmore,
for encouraging my art even when they don’t understand it
Hunting Rabbits

I’m excited to extend an invitation to you to join me on a hunt for rabbits. I’ve only seen the rabbits that live in my parents’ backyard and I’ve never held a pet rabbit because I’m afraid of being bitten. There’s a lot to learn from the distance between ourselves and the things that are right in front of us but blend into the background, things that are always running away, and things sitting in our lap that we’re too scared to hold. In Hunting Rabbits, the rabbit represents the parts of me that get away, and the paintings are an attempt to catch and come to terms with them. No rabbits are harmed but it wouldn't be a hunt without the implication of danger, and after all many of the things I’m looking for cause me pain, but there’s also tenderness and forgiveness because the rabbits are part of me.

My artwork always takes place in an imaginary fantasy world where I deposit the things I don't want to confront, free of consequences. I am interested in this form of escapism not only as it happens in my art practice but in my daily life. All my favorite kinds of escape leave a big mess, and some of this project devotes itself to cleaning up what I can't. Other parts of the project aren't worried about cleaning up after themselves and instead celebrate the evidence and junk the hunt leaves behind. I searched for rabbits in my old bedrooms, drawings, photographs, memories, trinkets and trash, following a trail of paw prints that helped articulate aspects of myself I couldn't access on my own. Individually the paintings are vignettes of how and where the hunt led me, both in their content and the emotions that drove them. Collectively the vignettes form a storybook narrative of the great frustration and pleasure I found in trying to catch the things that get away.
Works Included:

**Title Card (2022)**
Collaged paper, ink, acrylic paint, gouache, graphite on plywood  5’x3’

**Bait & Switch (2022)**
Acrylic paint, gouache, colored pencil, graphite, collaged drawing on masonite panel  8’x4’
**Bunny Bones** (2022)
Acrylic paint, gouache, colored pencil, graphite on masonite panel  4’x3’

**Go Ask Alice!** (2022)
Acrylic paint, gouache, colored pencil, graphite on masonite panel  8’x4’
**Crawlspace/Chutes and Ladders (2022)**
Acrylic paint, gouache, colored pencil, graphite, collaged photographs and drawings on masonite panel  8’x4’

**Junk Drawer/Rabbit Food (2022)**
Acrylic paint, gouache, colored pencil, graphite on masonite panel  8’x4’
Best Friends/Dual Diagnosis (2022)
Acrylic paint, gouache, colored pencil, graphite, paper collage, plexiglass, wood glue on masonite panel 8’x4’

The Beach Of The Pond I Swim In (2022)
Acrylic paint, gouache, colored pencil, graphite on masonite panel 8’x4’
Birthday Party (2022)
Acrylic paint, gouache, colored pencil, graphite, collaged photograph on masonite panel  8’x4’

Afterparty (2022)
Acrylic paint, gouache, colored pencil, graphite on masonite panel  8’x4’
The Grass is Greener/On The Other Side (Diptych) (2022)
Acrylic paint, gouache on masonite panel 4’x4’

Busy Bunny (2022)
Table, plexiglass, paint tubes, cans, coffee tins, acrylic paint, paper collage, beads, aluminum tape, wood glue, paper towels, wood
**Best Friends/Dual Diagnosis (sculpture) (2022)**
Spray paint, sewn dolls, colored pencil, jewelry, found objects

**HUNTING RABBITS (2022)**
Spray foam insulation, acrylic paint
Hunting Rabbits

Bones Gilmore's thesis exhibition
Opening Saturday, April 9th
3-6 PM at the
Bank College Exhibition Center
7401 S Broadway, Redhook NY
April 9th - 23rd