

Still Wild

Nov. 21, 2018 – Feb. 15, 2019

This exhibition represents a combination of the persistence of chaotic intuition (the Wild) with the calm of meditative contemplation (the Still) with works that honor the Wildness within each of us, reminding us to accept with grace what Stillness can bring.

by Brianna Floor

Gallery G presents...

Brianna Floor

Although born and raised in small-town Indiana, and schooled in the cornfields, Briana Floor spent part of her young life in the Rocky Mountains and in the hills with her Native relatives, in Appalachia. *Magic Miss Bri* (her artist moniker) has a background as diverse as her artistic chops.

A writer, as well as artist, Floor has writings featured in online newspapers and has independently published four chapter books of poetry (*Fugitive Words from the Almond Cloud*, *Little Fugitives*, *To All the Boys*, and *Womanic Life*)—all before she turned 30. Floor’s artistic vision inspired her to travel all over the US, soaking in experience and letting her art flow from her at breakneck speed. Her shamanic talents emerged at an early age, and encouraged by her family, she spent many years working as a healer in both Native and Eastern traditions, as a licensed massage therapist and Reiki Healer.

Then, in 2009, Floor was diagnosed with systemic lupus and fibromyalgia. Unable to continue her massage therapy career due to severe pain and fatigue, she returned to her art. Pouring all that she had learned onto paper and canvas, she channels shamanic and Eastern lessons into visual images that often speak of universal truths. Blending modern techniques with ancient styles and symbols, and despite crippling illness, she dubbed herself *Magic Miss Bri*, believing that “Every little thing she does is magic” in the face of such physical adversity.

“The things that make us the same are much more important than the things that make us different,” Says Magic Miss Bri, both outloud and in her art. She seeks to show the world that all beings are truly, universally connected and infinite.





Divinimals

The *Divinimals*, like all of Floor's works exhibited here are created with little planning and little control. The outcomes are always a surprise. This speaks to the artist's understanding of not being able to control everything in life. In her circular mandala-esque patterns, no layers are pre-planned. Each layer builds on itself and is laid down permanently, the first time, and as the piece speaks to her. The artist feels that this allows each piece to develop as it wants—spontaneously. Very few tools are used which means that lines are uneven, often not geometrically perfect. This is done intentionally, hearkening to the artists' belief of "only the Creator can make a perfect thing."

What I try to convey with the *Divinimals*," says Floor, "is that if one can see this beauty expressed in another creature or being, maybe the viewer can turn that vision inward and begin to see themselves with the same kind of intricate beauty. Not perfection, as we are all flawed—but utterly glorious and radiant, even while containing imperfections. Thus turning the 'perfectly imperfect' art into a catalyst for self-healing."

Each piece is done as part of a shamanic channeling of their respective totem spirit. Working in conjunction with both the materials and the totems, a synergistic harmony is created connecting artist, medium, and spirit. These totems are divine representations of the lessons taught by each spirit, for example, the energy of *Rabbit*, rather than a drawing of a particular rabbit. In short, they are *Divine Animals* or (as the series is named), *Divinimals*.