

form & concept

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jenny Day featuring prints by James Drake, Louise Nevelson, Nusra Qureshi, Luke Dorman & others.

A Feast to Remember
March 29 - April 26 2024

OPENING RECEPTION
Friday, March 29, 5-7 PM

CLOSING RECEPTION
Friday, April 26, 5-7 PM



A Feast to Remember (Installation View) by Micah Mermilliod courtesy of Alabama Contemporary Art Center.

Interdisciplinary artist unleashes apocalyptic animal banquet in the Railyard, prompting discourse on climate crisis and the future

(March 2024) In 2023, the Center for Biological Diversity reported that 40% of natural ecosystems in the United States are imperiled. A ruinous 21st-century cyclone of unchecked overpopulation, industrial extraction and production, and throwaway consumer culture have smashed the delicate equilibrium of Earth's ecosystems, sending wildlife running for the proverbial hills—or in Jenny Day's case, the dining room. The Santa Fe-based artist's immersive banquet table populated by a menagerie of mixed media animals, *A Feast to Remember*, sets the stage for a roundtable discussion on humanity's place in and culpability for the natural world's current state. **The exhibition opens with a reception at form & concept on Friday, March 29, 5-7 PM. An artist walkthrough with a symbolic candle-lighting closes the exhibition on Friday, April 26 from 5-7 PM.**

“Day’s sprawling installation simultaneously evokes *The Last Supper*, Judy Chicago’s *Dinner Party*, and the California Bay Area’s Funk Art movement,” says Communications Director Spencer Linford, **“With colorful critters climbing chandeliers and pop art polar bears storming a hot pink dining table, one can’t help but consider how fragile humankind’s highly constructed domestic sphere is.”**

A claustrophobic feeling of displacement settles in as viewers wander through room after room only to find each overrun with large-scale creatures from Day's *Needs More Wonder (Every Tether Has Two Ends)* series. Bookended by two large-scale acrylic paintings that figuratively depict the collision between society and nature and featuring animal and domesticity-themed prints by major contemporary artists like Louise Nevelson and James Drake, *A Feast to Remember* is **a metaphorical centerpiece that holds great darkness and glimmers of hope.**

“Paradise burns, we check our phones,” says Day. The artist's scathing, poetic splice of humanity's neglect and indifference carries an ominous undertone, but instead of reinforcing society's capitulation to fatalist consumerism, Day challenges viewers to consider humanity's untapped potential for good, its capacity for growth, and its bountiful creativity as resources to solve the most pressing issue of our era: climate change.

Day's sincere appeal to humanity's cerebral flexibility emanates from the maximalist diversity of her mixed media ceramics practice that defies convention and calls forth memories of the California Bay Area Funk Art movement of the 60s, which rejected the roiling rage of abstract expressionism in favor of playful, tactile experimentation. Picking up where the funk artists left off, Day's *A Feast to Remember* elevates ceramics from the domestic sphere of house decor to the national stage of provocative contemporary art, all with an endearingly tongue-in-cheek humor that one can't help but smile at—**even in the snarling face of climate catastrophe.**

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For press or image inquiries, please contact Spencer Linford at spencer@formandconcept.center.

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BIOGRAPHY

Jenny Day is a painter who lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She earned an MFA in Painting from the University of Arizona, a BFA in Painting from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and a BA in Environmental Studies from the University of California Santa Cruz. Her exhibition record most recently includes Arte Laguna in Venice, Italy, Czong Institute for Contemporary Art in Korea, Phoenix Art Museum, Blue Star Contemporary Museum in San Antonio, TX, and Elmhurst Museum in Chicago, IL. Day's work has been supported by an Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation Grant in 2018, a Contemporary Forum Artist Grant from the Phoenix Art Museum in 2017, a Barron Purchase Award in 2016 and through participation at Greenwich House Pottery, the Ucross Foundation, the Jentel Foundation, and the Playa Foundation For The Arts, among others. Jenny Day is represented by Jonathan Ferrara Gallery in New Orleans, Louisiana, Davis Dominguez Gallery in Tucson, Arizona, and William Havu Gallery in Denver, Colorado.

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