



# **New Body**

Are we our body? Are our bodily experiences an innate part of our identity? When our body lets us down, what can we do? When our body fails us, can we just find a new one? This series of oil paintings wrestles with the inherent physicality of our existence.

We are told if we are good, we will be well. If we try very hard, if we eat this and don't eat that, if we do the right exercise, if we eliminate stress, if we achieve, if we pray the right prayers, then we will be well. Health is marketed to us as an act of will – and consumerism. If all else fails, we can buy replacement parts. But can we really? Will they work the same as what we have lost?

When the body fails in some way – through illness or disability or aging or injury – we may discover that we are not what we thought we were. We are, in fact, material beings, animals, a part of the natural world. Like all of nature, we are both miraculous and fallible. Awesome and terrifying.

In these paintings, I hunt out various "new bodies" to try on – looking for something more comfortable than my own. How is the search going? It depends on how you look at it. How do you see it?



#### COYOTE/SILVER BULLET/BITTER PILL



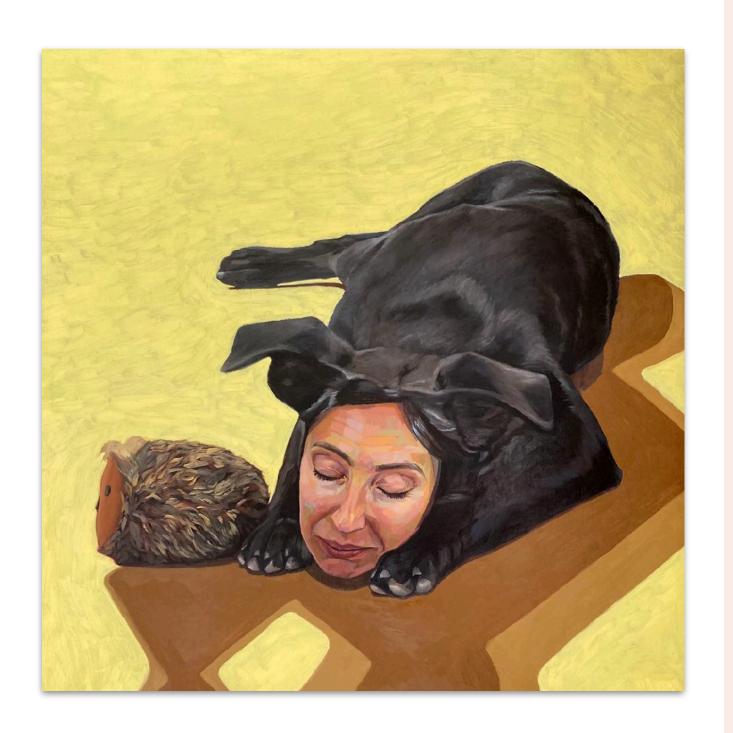
## HIBERNATE



## SICK MOUNTAIN LION



## HAWK



#### **NEW BODY**



## DEER



# NATALIE VOELKER

A Helene Wurlitzer Foundation fellow and international BP Portrait Award exhibitor, Natalie Voelker creates paintings, murals, and drawings that investigate complexity and transcendence in that which, at first glance, appears to simply be ordinary life. Her painting, Davetta, has been exhibited at the National Portrait Gallery in London as well as the Scottish National Portrait Gallery in Edinburgh and the Ulster Museum in Belfast, Ireland. Her work has been featured in multiple publications including the anthology, BARED, and the French-English magazine, VolUp. Voelker has produced commissioned works for the Harwood Art Center, 508 Mural Festival, the City of Albuquerque, and various private collections – both nationally and abroad. She has a BFA from the University of Wisconsin and currently lives and works in Albuquerque, NM.

# Abbreviated CV

Solo exhibitions include: New Body, Lapis Room, Albuquerque, NM (2023); Solo, Ricochet Gallery, Albuquerque NM (2021); Fortitude, UNM Valencia Campus Fine Art Gallery, Los Lunas, NM (2020); Fortitude, Harwood Art Center, Albuquerque, NM (2018); Idiomatic, 5G Gallery, Albuquerque, NM (2016).

Group exhibitions include: BP Portrait Award Exhibition, Ulster Museum, Belfast, UK (2020); BP Portrait Award Exhibition, National Portrait Gallery, London, UK (2019); BP Portrait Award Exhibition, Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Edinburgh, UK (2019);

Residencies include: KHN Center for the Arts, Nebraska City, NE (2023); Helene Wurlitzer Foundation Residency Fellowship, Taos. NM (2021).

Public Art includes: Day at Sunport Pool, mural commissioned by City of Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM (2020); Reviving the Desert Sunset, site-specific installation/temporary mural commissioned by SOMOS, Albuquerque, NM (2020); Deep Rooted, temporary site-specific installation, commissioned by SOMOS, Albuquerque, NM (2019); Angel of Independence, mural commissioned by La Reforma Brewery, Albuquerque, NM (2019); Perseverance, mural commissioned by 508 Mural Fest, Albuquerque, NM (2017).

Collections include: Bernalillo County, NM; City of Albuquerque, NM; Tamarind Institute, NM; La Familia Clinic, Santa Fe, NM; private collections in the United States, Australia, North Korea, and the United Arab Emirates.

Please note:

Colors in images may vary slightly.

Panels may have variation & texture.

Standard shipping rates apply.

# LAPIS ROOM

PURCHASE:

LAPISROOM.COM/NATALIEVOELKER

CONTACT:

LAURA HOUGHTON DIRECTOR / CO-OWNER

303 ROMERO ST NW, S107, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87104

505.508.2733

LAPISROOM.COM

CONTACT@LAPISROOM.COM

@LAPISROOM