



and above all, watch with glittering eyes the whole world around you because the greatest secrets are always hidden in the most unlikely places. Those who don't believe in magic will never find it.

Road Dahl

Psychedelic Rodeo
acrylic + object on canvas
110 x 60 x 12 inches, 2015

Dana Donaty was raised in New Jersey, coming with a unique blend of Colombian, Peruvian, Italian, Irish and American backgrounds. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Drawing from Moore College of Art & Design in Philadelphia, PA. After living in London, England for twelve years she relocated in 2006 to Florida, where she now lives and works.

Widely recognized for her provocative canvases with unusual narrative, Donaty's unmistakable satirical lexicon is a perfect collision of reality and fantasy, outlandish burlesque, psychological flirtation and a super charged palette that is like a party about to get thoroughly out of control.

She has completed many award winning public art projects, featured in over fifty national and international publications. She has garnered multiple awards within the design industry, as she has been sought after to create unique commissions for high profile residential and commercial projects.

Her work has been exhibited at The Cornell Museum of Art, as well as international art fairs like Art Palm Beach, Art Boca Raton, the American International Fine Art Fair, Scope and major group shows throughout Florida. Selected solo shows include the Coral Springs Museum of Art in Coral Springs, exhibition sponsored by South Florida Ford, Paul Fisher Gallery in Palm Beach, and The Ora Sorensen Gallery in Palm Beach. Her work is in both public and private collections in the US, and Europe.

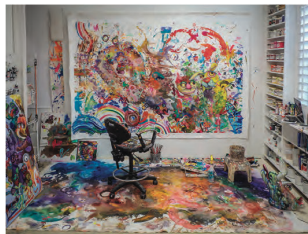
ddrocki@mac.com (561) 504-3374
www.danadonatyfinearts.com
© 2018 dana donaty



All Stars
acrylic on canvas, 48 x 60 inches, 2014



Freaky - detail
mixed media on canvas, 19 x 17 x 14 inches,



artist studio

Coral Springs Museum of Art
2855A Coral Springs Drive, Coral Springs, FL 33065
(954) 340-5000 www.CoralSpringsMuseum.org

Dana Donaty



Profoundly Playful

a survey of work

june 14 - august 25, 2018

curated by Bruce Helander

Expect the Unexpected

Bruce Helander

Having followed Dana Donaty's work for several years, I can attest to her very high standard of consistency in imagery and inventiveness. In fact, after carefully examining her latest series of works, I have come to expect the unexpected in terms of sheer innovation.

At a first glance by someone who may be unfamiliar with her artwork, one might assume that all these wonderful hybrid creatures come from a collection of secondhand and department store objects, which serve as inspirational still-life models and a studio guideline for accuracy. But, in fact, this marvelous gathering of disparate and strikingly humorous figurative forms seems to be spinning around in the artist's head, ready to be borrowed for her compositions as she intuitively lays out a parade of semi-alien creatures from the cartoon universe in the sky.

Donaty's new series effortlessly connects with her past work by retaining the delightful common denominator of slapstick humor in unlikely possibilities, including a never-ending barrage of characters born of impossible imagination and circumstances. It doesn't hurt that this gifted artist has a special knack for inventing oddball scenarios that are heightened by superior picture-making.

The work titled "All Stars" is a pretty good example of a painter gone wild with an unlimited imagination and an unusual talent for making things up that appear believable. A careful examination of "All Stars" first and foremost reveals an uncommon talent for generating realistic perspectives. The purple-shoed skateboarder mysteriously glides through the air while miniature UFOs jump to get out of the way. Those curious creatures that don't react fast enough, express comic horror as they nearly become absorbed by the airborne velocity that's jetting through the atmosphere. Also in this engaging configuration, there is an unusual viewpoint that looks upward, adding convincing depth and is secured by a complicated foreground of beings never before discovered.

While many painters limit themselves to two-dimensional formulas, Donaty takes in stride three-dimensional forms that are accented by connective characteristics that simply don't skip a beat. "Freaky," 2016, depicts a five-eyed, big-lipped, blob of a shape, which is perhaps looking for a friendly expression from a sympathetic observer. The creature's skin is translucent, revealing a network of colorful "veins" that could only come from another planet. Conversely, "Top Dog" 2015, has the same identifiable DNA as other delightful figures that add to the pageant of engaging suspects.

In all of Donaty's carefully articulated works, her audience can sense a true love of articulating paint medium combined with a love and fascination for creating abstracted characters that are unique and certainly memorable. These works suggest a rare talent and an artist who truly is having a wonderful time that ends each day, no doubt, with an engaging smile of satisfaction and accomplishment.

Bruce Helander is an art critic, arts writer, curator and artist. He is the former Editor-in-Chief of "The Art Economist" magazine, White House Fellow of the National Endowment for the Arts and the former Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs of the RISD. He is a regular contributor to The New Yorker and The Huffington Post.

Front Cover:
America's Got Talent
acrylic on canvas, 68 x 110 inches, 2016



Top Dog
acrylic on canvas, 60 x 48 inches, 2015

Exhibition Checklist:

- The Barber of Seville**
acrylic on canvas
24 x 24 inches, 2014
- America's Got Talent**
acrylic on canvas
68 x 110 inches, 2016
- Freaky**
mixed media on canvas
19 x 17 x 14 inches, 2016
- The Economics of Desire**
acrylic on canvas [diptych]
64 x 108 inches, 2017
- Clurpee**
mixed media sculpture
31 x 20 x 15 inches, 2015
- Captain MoneyPants**
mixed media sculpture
43 x 28 x 24 inches, 2016
- Out of this World Cup**
acrylic on canvas
60 x 30 inches, 2014
- Saturday Night Live**
acrylic on canvas
48 x 80 inches, 2015
- Marcel**
mixed media sculpture
20 x 20 x 29 inches, 2016
- Top Dog**
acrylic on canvas
60 x 48 inches, 2015
- Harlequin's Carnival**
acrylic on canvas
60 x 60 inches, 2016
- Psychedelic Rodeo**
acrylic + object on canvas
110 x 60 x 12 inches, 2015
- Electric Bullfight**
acrylic on board [diptych]
60 x 60 inches, 2014
- Maestro's Magic Minstrels**
acrylic on canvas
40 x 80 inches, 2016
- Bombay Sapphire**
acrylic on canvas
36 x 48 inches, 2015
Private Collection, Miami, FL
- It's a Wonderful Life**
acrylic on canvas
36 x 48 inches, 2015
- Lord of the Rings**
acrylic on linen
48 x 60 inches, 2014
- Lilly Pulitzer's Prize**
acrylic on canvas
78 x 48 inches, 2017
- Art of the Spiel**
acrylic on canvas
78 x 48 inches, 2017
- Olé**
acrylic on canvas
46 x 56 inches, 2014
- The Tropic of Sir Galahad**
acrylic on linen
10 x 10 inches, 2015
- The Guardian**
acrylic on linen
10 x 10 inches, 2015
- Dali Bear**
acrylic on linen
10 x 10 inches, 2015
- Little Boy Blue**
acrylic on linen
10 x 10 inches, 2015
- Dude**
acrylic on linen
10 x 10 inches, 2015
- Koons Kitty**
acrylic on linen
10 x 10 inches, 2015
- Dog Daze**
acrylic on linen
10 x 10 inches, 2015
- Mini**
acrylic on linen
10 x 10 inches, 2015
- Rhinocorn, Coming to a Theatre Near You Soon**
acrylic + object on canvas
110 X 54 X 18 inches, 2015
- One Pill Makes You Larger**
acrylic on canvas
30 x 30 inches, 2014
- Peep Show**
acrylic on canvas
30 x 30 inches, 2014
- Red Tape**
acrylic on canvas
30 x 30 inches, 2014
- Blue Monkey Flamenco**
acrylic on canvas
30 x 30 inches, 2014
Coral Springs Museum of Art,
Coral Springs, FL
- Steppin Out**
acrylic on board
12 x 12 inches, 2015
- Extra Dirty**
acrylic + object on board
12 x 12 inches, 2015
- Lunar Landing**
acrylic on canvas
46 x 56 inches, 2014
- All Stars**
acrylic on canvas
48 x 60 inches, 2014
- Twinkle Toes**
acrylic on canvas
46 x 56 inches, 2014
- Chompagne Dreams**
acrylic on canvas
48 x 36 inches, 2016