

## The Wild and Not-So-Wild Things

We are Dave and Jenn. An efficient way to describe our art practice is to say that we are collaborative landscape painters. But, a more accurate thing to write is that we are fascinated by the spaces where people and the wild overlap and we create portraits of the landscapes that we as humans think we somehow own and control.

Our work focuses on the Wilderness and we dream up secret scenes that happen within our landscapes when we are not paying attention. Our paintings tell the stories of the inner landscapes that we build and carry around inside us. Our work is complete with realities and hearsay, it is a reflection of the places we claim as Nature, full of our own fears and expectations of what that Wilderness actually is and how we might factor into it.

Whether they are rugged wild places or groomed expanses of lawn, flowers and trees, the parks in our communities reflect our ideas of nature back at us. But these places are not just lone islands that sporadically dot our city's neutral seas. They are joined in the mind to form a larger landscape, connected by the Wild and not-so- Wild creatures that weave through them and call these islands home. Whether we as people have set the land aside or have formed it to suit our needs, we are not the only ones on it. Many stories happen when we are not looking.

Whether they are rugged wild places or groomed expanses of lawn, flowers and trees, the parks in our communities reflect our ideas of nature back at us. But these places are not just lone islands that sporadically dot our city's grey seas. They are joined in the mind to form a larger landscape, connected by the Wild and not-so- Wild creatures that weave through them and call these islands home. Whether we as people have set the land aside or have formed it to suit our needs, we are not the only ones on it. Many stories happen when we are not looking.

- Dave and Jenn