

HOWARD
YEZERSKI
GALLERY

Animal As Metaphor

*Karl Baden, Morgan Bulkeley, Holly Lynton,
Neeta Madahar, Sally Moore, Frank Noelker, Shelley Reed,
John O'Reilly, Kate Owens, Donald Shambroom, Joe Zane*

July 7 – August 18, 2017



Still from *Me and the Black Dog*, 2015
Neeta Madahar and Kate Owens
Hand-drawn animation.

Animal As Metaphor, a group exhibition featuring eleven artists, will be the first exhibition by newly reopened Howard Yezerski Gallery. There will be an opening reception on Friday, July 7, 5 - 8 pm.

Animal As Metaphor is an exhibition of artists across media and disciplines working with the age-old practice of using animals as a metaphor for different aspects of human experience. Each artist interprets this in a different way, some more directly than others. Using symbolism, surrealism, and allusion, every piece contributes new perspectives to a long conversation about how animals can represent abstract concepts in humanity.

Neeta Madahar and Kate Owens' animation, "Me and the Black Dog", speaks to this directly, using the dog as a representation of depression, while Sally Moore's sculpture uses a gorilla as an embodiment of human thought processes. Shelley Reed, Holly Lynton, and Donald Shambroom's direct animal renderings invoke emotional, cultural, and religious connotations without employing techniques outside realism. Frank Noelker's chimp portraits and Morgan Bulkeley's paintings examine the mark humanity has left on nature and the creatures that inhabit it. John O'Reilly's collages discuss human relationships using animal imagery, while Joe Zane and Karl Baden's works discuss the relationship between nature and humans, and how those interactions can be reflective of self and society.

Assembled together, the works in *Animal As Metaphor* form a multifaceted exploration of the ways animals are ingrained into human introspection.