

Dana Frostick The Ballad of Kiki and Lucifer Sharpie and acrylic paintings on canvas

I was born and raised in Richmond, VA, in the latter half of the 20th century. At the age of six, I realised that I was an artist and made it my life's goal to practice art professionally. I studied fine art with an emphasis on sculpture at Virginia Commonwealth University in the 1980s. In 1999, after a lengthy career at the Richmond Times–Dispatch in pre–press and electronic publishing, I retired to pursue my calling.

For the past two decades, I've focused on abstract painting, coaxing order out of chaos to create unique pieces of artwork. Using Sharpie and acrylics, my elaborate doodles have allowed me to embrace my human mark in my artwork. But recently, I've desired to create representational art again, and not wanting to abandon my abstract process, I have been melding recognizable imagery with my abstract technique.

A self-proclaimed "kittiot," I love cats beyond reason. So I decided to focus my imagery on cats. The Ballad of Kiki and Lucifer is a record of the cats currently in my life – their meeting, how they acclimated to each other, and how they eventually became friends. The work was entirely created in the first half of 2025 for a solo exhibition at Artspace in Richmond, VA. They also inspired the poem I wrote in ballad form which is included at the back of this book.

It's my goal that this work evokes both time and motion. My display of the paintings' layers acknowledges history, providing glimpses into my creative process as well as details of the cats' interactions with each other.

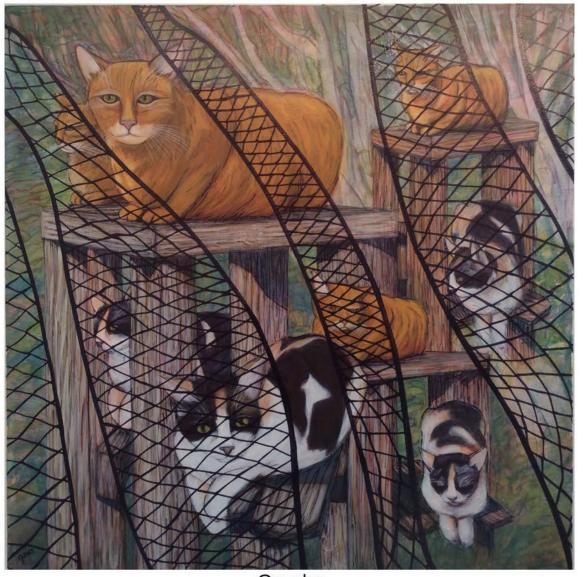
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