

F*CK!!!

I Love Yearning!!

"F*ck! I Love Yearning!" is a new collection of works by queerfemme artist Suki Berry. Hot luscious colors invite us to savor unbridled movement. Ethereal shapes embody messiness, optimism, and spontaneity. There are forces in this world that seek to harm us, but they cannot penetrate the web of interconnectedness that love upholds.

These works are portals to unseen places where dreams reside. Pleasure is not shameless escapism; but a way to speak to the higher self. Berry's work is a series of psychedelic love notes to joy and surrender. There is truth in longing, poetry in desire, and freedom in allowing oneself to yearn. There is an animal part of us that seeks stillness when things feel chaotic. Organic shapes and hot flowing sunsets recall scenes of tremendous queer joy. In these dreamscapes, there is no room for shame or second-guessing.

These paintings symbolize sort of a universal longing that queer people experience across generations, gender expressions, sexualities, personalities. There's a beautiful agony that comes along with desire, and it fuels so much of our creative expression. For me, I feel sort of a sensual closeness to the Earth, feeling her warmth through sunsets, glimmering oceans, and golden atmospheric rivers. Our ability to experience desire helps us carve beautiful futures with lovers, friends, and our environments. Yearning is also what keeps us hoping for brighter futures; keeps us dreaming for a better world. Yearning isn't senseless fantasy, but a way to connect to the universal truth that we deserve the world and hope is one of the most powerful tools we have.

These paintings are done in the signature "Suki Berry" abstract style.

Allowing the wood grain to act as a background helps keep us grounded to the organic material. These paintings aren't acrylic, but actually gouache. Gouache is higher in pigment, and also more opaque, allowing for more vibrant colors and firmer shapes. Suki never goes in with a plan, each painting is done to music, and she let's her brush guide her, creating a sort of visual essay.

Suki Berry can often be found live-painting at large scale festivals, where she can share her love of art with the music community. She has a degree in Studio Art from Cal Poly Humboldt. Painting and performance art has been her sole living and life's purpose for as long as she's been able to hold a brush. It's not a stable lifestyle, but one that enables the freedom she needs to develop as an artist. Suki has spent time developing her practice all over California. She has put down artistic roots in San Diego, Humboldt, Santa Cruz, and is now currently in Oakland. She is currently an Artist in Residence at The Midway, San Francisco.

@SUKIBERRYART



**OPENING SHOW
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