



*Dream, But Don't Sleep*

**Jennikah Bastian**

**Solo Show**

**THE BIRDCAGE SAN FRANCISCO**

**816 Sutter Street**

**San Francisco, CA**

**Showing April 6 2024- May 29, 2024**

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Jennika Bastian is a Bay Area based magical realism painter. One of her favorite quotes is "Myths are public dreams, dreams are private myths," by Joseph Campbell. She views her artwork as a dance between these realms. When Jennika was 5 years old she taught herself how to lucid dream. Her aesthetic is informed by how objects, environments and characters appear in her dreams: shape shifting, ephemeral, simultaneously growing and decaying. She is fascinated by mythology and folklore in different cultures-

particularly how these tales can thread within our subconscious minds, almost as if the stories are organisms unto themselves. This exhibition, "Dream, but Don't Sleep," dives deep into these themes. Her ongoing series of eyes explores the dreams she has where she is a disembodied observer, asking herself "What would this awareness look and feel like, gazing upon the dreamscape?"

Jennika has been self-employed since she was 16 years old, selling her personal artwork and creating commissions. Her freelance work includes illustrating a young adult fantasy series, installation design for the Burning Man festival, outdoor illuminated sculptures, murals and live painting on stage for concerts. Her work has been exhibited regionally and internationally.

Jennika's books are open for commissions! Contact her at [jennikabastianart@gmail.com](mailto:jennikabastianart@gmail.com) if you would like her to paint something custom for you. Her most popular commissions are pet and human portraits, and landscapes, realistic or fantastical.

Subscribe to her art newsletter by emailing her to keep in the loop of upcoming gallery exhibitions, print releases and special discounts on commissions.