

*Thinking Outside The Litter Box*  
**Vale Bernot, Jaqueline Cedar, Ralph Pugay**  
June 11th - July 3rd

To think outside the litter box is to have an art show referencing cats, not just with cats. Maybe Santa Claus uses a litter box. Maybe we morph into turtles and swim in harmony with our ancestors. Perhaps a dog leashes-up some humanoids or a hula-hooping woman empties her bowels on burial grounds under the horrified gaze of innocent kittens. Republican State Senator Bruce Bostelman of Nebraska gave us another outstanding example earlier this year:

“They meow and they bark and they interact with their teachers in this fashion,” Bostelman said during a televised legislative debate on a bill intended to help school children who have behavioral problems. He continued, “And now schools are wanting to put litter boxes in the bathrooms for these children to use. How is this sanitary?”

While we here at Walter’s strenuously object to Senator Bostelman’s delusional politics, we applaud his willingness to acknowledge the ever-blurring line between the animal and the human. From the persistence of Covid to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine to the shocking-yet-numbing regularity of school shootings, 2022 has been the kind of year that makes a person wish they could become a sun-spot–drugged napping cat. But as long as we’re still awake, the representation of animals dealing with human emotions, or humans shitting everywhere like animals, feels incredibly apropos.

Walter’s inaugural summer-gallery exhibition consists of nine works - three each from three different artists who hail from three different parts of North America. Vale Bernot is from Mexico City; Jaqueline Cedar, from Brooklyn; and Ralph Pugay, from Portland, Oregon.

Bruce Bostelman later acknowledged what he said wasn’t true and added: “It was just something I felt that if this really was happening, we needed to address it and address it quickly.”

A sense of urgency also reverberates off the walls of *Thinking Outside The Litter Box*. It’s time to piss your pants, hiss at your conservative aunts, or escape the gravity of the zeitgeist and purr for a moment.

Opening Reception: June 11th, 5-7pm

Gallery Hours: Saturday & Sunday, 12-5pm, and by appointment

Closing Reception: July 3rd, 5-7pm

For more information check [walters.art](http://walters.art) or [@walter\\_\\_elwood](https://www.instagram.com/walter_elwood) on Instagram. You can also contact Brent Birnbaum at [brent@walters.art](mailto:brent@walters.art) or at 646-736-9867.

**Walter’s**  
199 Beach 96th Street  
Rockaway Beach, New York, 11693