

JOHNNY DEFEO | *WILD AMERICA*
OCTOBER 19 - NOVEMBER 30, 2024

1845 E LEVEE STREET, SUITE 110 | DALLAS, TX 75207



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Johnny DeFeo's new exhibition, *Wild America*, is aptly named for his infatuation with the last remaining unspoiled landscapes of the United States. The core of DeFeo's painting practice is working en plein air, painting in the outdoors amidst the beauty of America's most pristine landscapes. Following in the footsteps of artists such as Thomas Cole, Frederic Edwin Church, and Albert Bierstadt, DeFeo delights in documenting American public lands through his paintings and expands upon the work of such artists with commentary on the negative effects of human intervention.

In the studio, DeFeo often integrates his memories of these landscapes into compositions that combine luxury interiors with unbelievable views. In an age when we are disrupted and distant from the natural world around us, DeFeo imagines homes adorned with decor referencing the landscape in which it is set. His paintings combine the interior and exterior of the home into a singular transcendent place where the flora and fauna outside extend into the space through inviting and playful design and architecture. DeFeo's use of perspective sets us not only as viewers but as participants in this landscape and home, fulfilling the desire within us to experience a connection with nature.

Most recently, DeFeo has been bringing his plein air painting practice indoors, setting up his easel to paint taxidermy collections in unexpected places such as the Denver Museum of Nature and Science and Cabela's Outfitters. An extension of his interiors series, DeFeo is subtly introducing symbols into his work that act as disruptors to the utopic residential spaces he creates. For DeFeo, these scenes of taxidermy collections nod to the strained relationship between humankind and wild animals. Once full of life, these majestic creatures have become trophies— inert, powerless, and decorative. With both the interiors and taxidermy paintings, the artist points to humankind's struggle with a desire to control and dominate the natural world, even while we also hold a deep love and respect for it. Together, the works in *Wild America* ask viewers to confront our relationship to the great outdoors. Be it wild and revelatory, or protective and reverent, DeFeo encourages us to feel deeply and celebrate passionately.



Johnny DeFeo
eternal return, 2024
acrylic on panel
46h x 69w in
JDF037



Johnny DeFeo
Serenity Now, 2024
acrylic on panel
67h x 46w in
JDF046



Johnny DeFeo
A Hunting Lodge, 2024
acrylic on canvas
47h x 67w in
JDF031



Johnny DeFeo
Cozy Cabin Crested Butte, with Homer Fox Hunt and How the Stars Are Made, 2024
 acrylic on linen
 60h x 40w in
 JDF025



Johnny DeFeo
The Sun Sets on the Old Vermillion Trail (Will Rusty Plinkett Ride Again?), 2024
 acrylic on linen
 40h x 35w in
 JDF023



Johnny DeFeo
Sequestered in the Secret Secret Valley, 2024
 acrylic on panel
 36h x 48w in
 JDF044



Johnny DeFeo
Hunt or Be Hunted, 2024
acrylic on panel
29h x 47w in
JDF045



Johnny DeFeo
One Corner of Heaven, 2024
 acrylic on canvas
 30h x 24w in
 JDF040



Johnny DeFeo
In Each of Us There Are Two Wolves, 2024
 acrylic on panel
 30h x 24w in
 JDF035



Johnny DeFeo
heads 1, 2024
acrylic on panel
30h x 24w in
JDF043



Johnny DeFeo
Wild America, 2024
acrylic on panel
30h x 40w in
JDF028



Johnny DeFeo
title forthcoming-(TwoBears), 2024
 acrylic on linen
 30h x 40w in
 JDF029



Johnny DeFeo
Albuquerque Cabela's, 2024
acrylic on linen
20h x 16w in
JDF026



Johnny DeFeo
Early Morning on Ohio Pass, 2024
 acrylic on panel
 18h x 14w in
 JDF034



Johnny DeFeo
Traders Rendezvous 10.4, 2024
 acrylic on panel
 14h x 18w in
 JDF036



Johnny DeFeo
King Ropes Museum, 2024
acrylic on panel
18h x 14w in
JDF038



Johnny DeFeo
Rod and Gun Club Everglades, 2024
 acrylic on panel
 12h x 16w in
 JDF041



Johnny DeFeo
Field and Stream Wolves and Bear, 2024
acrylic on panel
12h x 16w in
JDF042



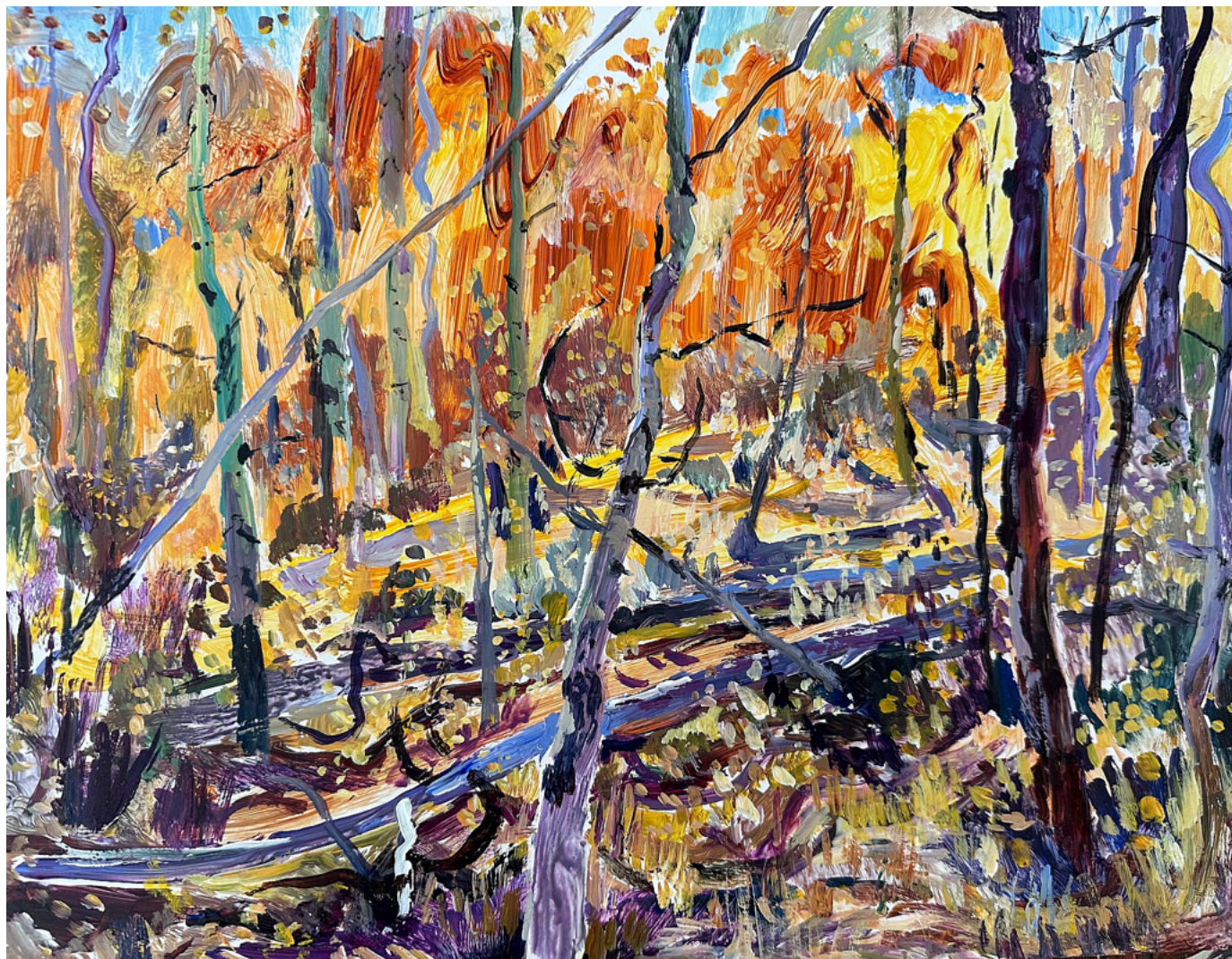
Johnny DeFeo
Bass Pro Shop Thornton Colorado, 2024
 acrylic on panel
 16h x 12w in
 JDF032



Johnny DeFeo
Sometimes you meet someone even in the dim dusk, 2024
 acrylic on canvas
 12h x 16w in
 JDF030



Johnny DeFeo
Traders Rendezvous 2, 2024
acrylic on panel
14h x 11w in
JDF033



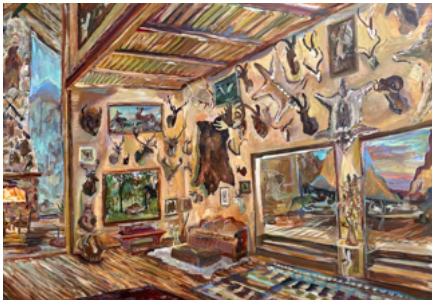
Johnny DeFeo
Midday Heat, 2024
acrylic on panel
11h x 14w in
JDF039



Johnny DeFeo
eternal return, 2024
acrylic on panel
46h x 69w in
JDF037
\$11,500



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Serenity Now, 2024
acrylic on panel
67h x 46w in
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A Hunting Lodge, 2024
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47h x 67w in
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60h x 40w in
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40h x 35w in

JDF023

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36h x 48w in

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30h x 40w in
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\$4,000



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title forthcoming-(TwoBears), 2024
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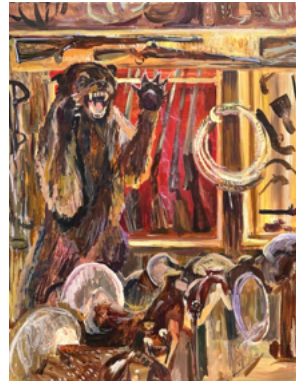
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18h x 14w in
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\$3,200



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Traders Rendezvous 10.4, 2024
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14h x 18w in
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Johnny DeFeo
King Ropes Museum, 2024
acrylic on panel
18h x 14w in
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\$3,200



Johnny DeFeo
Rod and Gun Club Everglades, 2024
acrylic on panel
12h x 16w in
JDF041
\$2,800



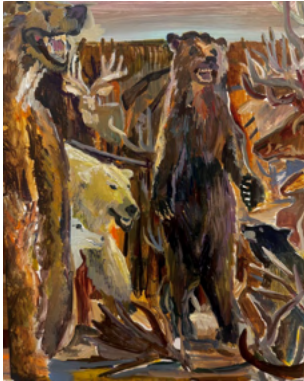
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Midday Heat, 2024
 acrylic on panel
 11h x 14w in
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Johnny DeFeo was born in Berlin, Connecticut in 1985. He received his BFA from Western State Colorado University and his MFA in painting and drawing from the University of Colorado. After receiving his MFA, DeFeo co-founded Adventure Painting, a traveling artist residency, which worked to incorporate America's most beautiful locations into a more complete lexicon of landscape painting. DeFeo's work was successful, as Adventure Painting was selected as an Armory Show off-site project in 2021 and featured in the New York Times. With over seventeen shows in the last five years, DeFeo's landscapes have found their ways into revered collections such as Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection, Prudential Investments, Aetna Insurance Company, City of Hartford, Connecticut, the New Britain Museum of American Art, and University of Colorado Art Collection.

cris worley

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