

FROELICK GALLERY

Emma Gerig

RUMINATORS
2024

I am a ruminator. My work is a continuous cycle of chewing, swallowing, and regurgitating thoughts and forms. In exploring images of my usual cast of animal characters, human limbs, and plant matter, I found a reflection of my own artistic process—a multi-stomach system of creation, digestion, and re-creation.

The paintings often start in a process of drawing and observation. I collect my imagery, my thoughts, my stories onto 1.5 x 2 inch Post-it notes, stuck into notebooks, and sometimes rearranged on other pieces of paper. This portion of the work is interwoven into daily life; like grazing in a pasture, I collect into my first stomach field notes.

Pieces return frequently in the studio. Retranslation of stories, objects, and forms from years earlier are regurgitated. I love making art; to always be making, to always be in this process of digestion. Therefore, the concept of reusing even the most minuscule thought—a doodle on a 1.5 x 2 inch piece of yellow paper—is the fuel for the art. Every usable molecule is considered and re-consumed.

The through line of my ruminations: a commitment to, an inherent love of, making. Each piece is part of a larger cycle of digestion and re-digestion, a testament to the enduring process of creation and re-creation.

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