

ghetto kids have dreams too



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2822 E. 17th Avenue
Denver, CO 80206

July 7-30, 2023

Saturdays & Sundays 12-5pm,
or by appointment

Opening reception Friday, July 7, 6-10pm

Bell Projects presents – **ghetto kids have dreams too** – a solo exhibition featuring new work by **Miguel Aguilar**. This exhibition opens Friday, July 7 and runs through July 30, 2023. Please join us for an **opening reception on July 7th from 6pm until 10pm**.

Miguel Aguilar (b. 1993) was born and raised in Southern California. Growing up in a rough neighborhood made him seek an alternative outlet than the lifestyle that was glorified and normalized. He always admired the tagging in the streets, and although it was gang affiliated, it was his first exposure to painting on walls. In addition to seeing the graffiti on buildings throughout his neighborhood, the beaches that he frequented in California and Mexico always had an array of artwork on their boardwalks. The styles ranged from the best graffiti styles you've ever seen, to beginner murals.

These influences and introductions to art at a young age gave him the courage to start his own path as an artist. Aguilar attended the Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design from 2015-2017 for a degree in illustration. It was here that he discovered his love of oil paint, blending the historicism of classical painters with his upbringing in Santa Ana to develop a unique style all his own. In the exhibition *ghetto kids have dreams too*, you will see the range of Aguilar's work, from portraits to still lifes, each painting employ a thick application of paint, expressive mark-making, and rich storytelling.

Miguel Aguilar is a Mexican American artist who represents West Coast Latin culture in his love for figurative painting. He hopes to encourage and instill a sense of pride in younger generations of painters who come from similar backgrounds. You can follow Miguel on Instagram @Mantherrrrrrr for his upcoming endeavors. Aguilar's future goals are to find a residency program in Denver, Colorado.



fear evicted

2023

Oil and acrylic on canvas

30 x 30"

\$700



Don't Die in Vain

2023

Oil on canvas

24 x 18"

\$400



Te Quiero Fea

2023

Oil and acrylic on canvas

18 x 24"

\$400



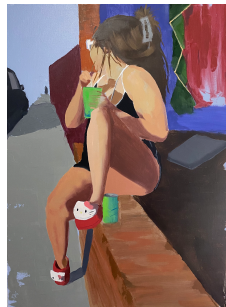
Overgrown

2023

Oil and acrylic on canvas

30 x 30"

\$700



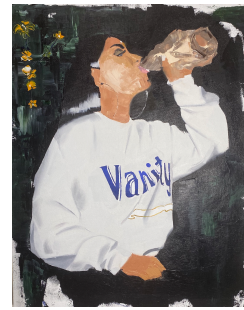
Summer Daze

2023

Oil and acrylic on canvas

24 x 18"

\$400



40oz of Therapy

2023

Oil on canvas paper
mounted on wood panel

20 x 16"

\$350



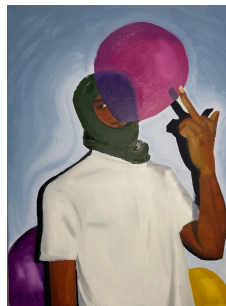
501 Young

2023

Oil and acrylic on canvas

30 x 30"

\$700



Always been 3 for 5

2023

Oil and acrylic on canvas

24 x 18"

\$400