



**NEW YORK ACADEMY OF ART PRESENTS,
WADE SCHUMAN: BOWIE HILL
October 7 – November 15, 2024
Opening Reception Wednesday, October 9**



Barn Swallow, 2024. ballpoint pen and acrylic on prepared paper on panel, 60 x 40 inches

New York, NY- Monday, Sept. 30, 2024-- New York Academy of Art presents Wade Schuman: BOWIE HILL. The exhibition will run from October 7 to November 15, 2024, and is a part of the school's Faculty Sabbatical Exhibition series.

The show will feature the artist's meticulous ballpoint pen drawings on paper. A lover of zoology, Wade Schuman draws images of animals—both their dead bodies and living forms—in

still life or absurd juxtapositions with human figures. His subjects often take on surreal hybrid forms in which figures morph into fish or cows, or their scale is manipulated to distort the viewer's perspective. Schuman's images are dense with symbolic meaning; in *Gluttony* (1989–90), a human figure-turned-fish constitutes a fable that warns against over-indulgence, while *Penguin Head on a Pedestal* (1992) symbolizes humanity's fractured relationship with the natural world.

The exhibition title takes its name from an 18th-century clapboard house purchased by his parents on Bowie Hill, a tiny village of Popham in the small town of Phippsburg, on a Peninsula southeast of Bath on the coast of Maine, where the artist stayed during the Pandemic. *Schuman states*, "My mother came from an old New England family. Art was part of the family, and she was a nature lover—she had a very New England obsession with birds, trees, and plants, a passion she got from her mother (particularly a fondness of toads), her grandfather (particularly a fondness for birds), and her father (landscape—a fondness for everything). I inherited this from them." He continues, "When Covid hit, I stayed in my mother's studio in the old barn and cared for my parents until their passing. Meanwhile, I walked miles at night in the snow by the ocean or in the woods past vernal pools or kayaking through thrashing pogies and watching harbor seals. These drawings are a result of this time. They were the animals around us and the ones my mother loved. I worked in ballpoint and acrylic because I lived in a small studio with no real kitchen or bathroom, and I was not up to the smell of oils and solvents. I liked the reductive simplicity of this hybrid technique. One of the freedoms of COVID was the feeling that, devil-be-damned, making something was mainly to please oneself. I also saw this project as an homage to my mother and her New England family and as a return to my roots as well: drawing and animals. From childhood through early adulthood, I took lessons drawing specimens at the local natural history museum. So, with this project, many aspects of my life came together."

WADE SCHUMAN: BOWIE HILL

On view

October 7 – November 15, 2024

10 am – 6 pm daily

Reception: October 9, 6-8 pm

New York Academy of Art

105 and 111 Galleries

111 Franklin Street, New York, NY 10013

For Exhibition Information, please contact: exhibitions@nyaa.edu

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Wade Schuman studied at the Rhode Island School of Design and at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. He traveled extensively in Europe on a Schiedt Travel Grant for Study from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. He has taught painting and drawing privately for over fifteen years at various institutions, including the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. He has received many awards, including three Visual Arts Fellowship Grants for Painting from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. He has also received an Award of Excellence from the Philadelphia Museum of Art and was a National Endowment for the Arts Mid-Atlantic Regional Fellowship Finalist. He has had numerous one-person shows in New York and Philadelphia and has shown extensively in many museums in the eastern and southern US. He is represented by the Forum Gallery in New York and the More Gallery in Philadelphia.

ABOUT THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF ART Founded in 1982 by artists, scholars, and patrons of the arts, including Andy Warhol, the New York Academy of Art is an educational and cultural institution that combines intensive technical training in the fine arts with active critical discourse. The Academy believes that rigorously trained artists are best able to realize their artistic vision. Through major exhibitions, a lively speaker series, and an ambitious educational program, the Academy serves as a creative and intellectual center for all artists dedicated to highly skilled, conceptually aware figurative and representational art.