

March 3 - April 7, 2023



Carbondale Arts

# What Is This Gold Toothed Beast?

A solo exhibition by Kia Neill

**Sponsored by Alleghany & Jill Meadows**

At the Carbondale Arts Gallery  
in The Launchpad (76 S 4th Street)  
[carbondalearts.com](http://carbondalearts.com) | 970-963-1680  
Open weekdays 10am - 5pm

## **KIA NEILL**

### **Artist Statement**

I am a mixed media artist working in photography, drawing & painting, collage and found materials. My work is produced through a combined process of collaging my original imagery either digitally or by cutting and painting by hand. For some works I additionally apply these compositions as image transfers to found discarded materials, such as weathered wood or rusted metal cans.

My work is inspired by the push-pull relationship between human use of landscape and the land constantly reclaiming itself, as well as my own sense of spirituality in relation to nature.

Compositionally, I use color and abstraction metaphorically to suggest an ephemeral experience or energy within mountain landscape, to suggest multiple points of time, or perhaps imply the land as a whimsical “beast” constantly in motion.

While I have always been attracted to the old dilapidated mines of Colorado, more recently I am considering the other ways we “mine” the mountains. I have started to use image transfers on found wood and rusty metal as an attempt to overlap mining history with modern day endeavors in seeking fortune and sanctuary in the Rocky Mountains.

### **Artist Biography**

Kia Neill is native to Chicago IL, and has lived in various parts of the country before finding home in Alma, Colorado. She received her MFA from The University of California San Diego and has taught art for over 20 years, ranging from universities to non-profit art centers.

Kia currently teaches in Breckenridge Creative Arts, for The Colorado Photographic Art Center, and Think 360 Arts. She has produced a number of commissions for Southwest Airlines Hobby International Airport, City of Houston Department of Public Waste, The Children’s Museum of Denver Mariposa Campus, the Aspen Police Department, the Town of Silverthorne, Town of Breckenridge, Town of Alma, and most recently for Meow Wolf Denver Convergence Station.

Kia is also a former Wilderness Workshop Artist-in-residence from 2017.

Learn more about the artist at [kianeill.com](http://kianeill.com) or on Instagram [@kianeillart](https://www.instagram.com/kianeillart)

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This exhibition is generously sponsored by Alleghany and Jill Meadows. Thank you!

*Special thanks to Savanna LaBauve for installation assistance.*

# Know Your Artist, Know Your Art

Carbondale Arts believes in the power of art and we know you do, too. There is a deep connection that happens when you purchase a piece of art, and getting to know the artist makes that connection even deeper. Carbondale Arts hosts over 10 art exhibitions every year. Find some art you love and dive in.

We have launched a [“Know Your Artist, Know Your Art”](#) campaign, as Carbondale Arts works to build relationships between artists and patrons. Inspired by the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) model of investing in local food, this Community Supported Art movement promotes the investment of local artists making a living in and around the [Carbondale Creative District](#), where Carbondale Arts makes its home.

## Gallery Committee Members

**Staff:** Jamie Abbott, Brian Colley, Staci Dickerson

**Non-staff:** Savanna LaBauve (chair), Leslie Neveu, Marilyn Lowey, Nichole O’Neill, Sally Nicholson, Elliot Norquist, Laura Stover, and Matt Vickers

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Carbondale Arts

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