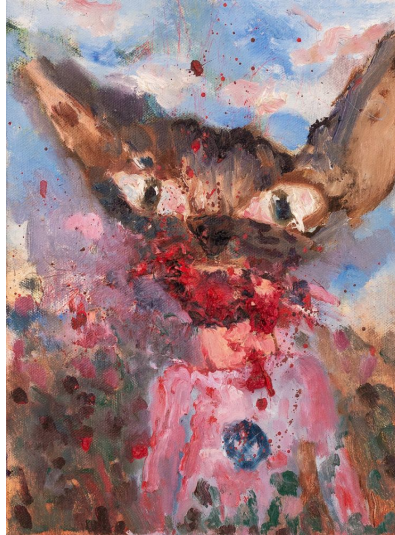


## **My Pet's Therapist**

Curated by April Zhu & Jacob Rhodes

OCTOBER 5 - NOVEMBER 9

Tutu Gallery, somewhere in Bedstuy Brooklyn



Animals have long been regarded as symbols of heightened spirituality and an amplification of personality psychology. Spiritual animals, animal ritual masks and gods/goddesses with hybrid animal forms are all examples of human's tendency to mark their extreme mental states as a transformation into animals. Only through these intense experiences do we feel connected to our true spirits and the order of nature.

My Pet's Therapist presents 15 works by 11 artists to discuss how humans identify with animals. Our relationship with animals can sometimes be double bounded: as top of the food chain, we are in separation with animals, controlling their lives and projecting our own mental activities to manipulate their image; at moments where we lose control over our emotion and civilized behavior, we can feel an equal fragility and a new understanding towards the truth, aware that our fate follows the arrangement of a larger ecosystem. Why do we love our pets? Is it a narcissistic love for we are the center of their universe? Or a genuine awe for they possess a state of mind us humans only have a glimpse into?