



Artist Nicole Hayden presents "Pinned: Icons of Beauty and Brawn" at Firecat Projects April 29th -May 21st. Located at 2124 N. Damen Ave. Chicago, IL 60647. Opening reception April 29th 7-10pm.

Nicole Hayden, currently living in San Francisco CA, was born and raised in Chicago IL. "Pinned" is her first solo show in her hometown since she moved west. Hayden is showcasing her beautifully painted figurative works which focus on her years as a child and adolescent in Chicago. Her work encapsulates nostalgia and popular culture from the 1980s, including WWF wrestlers, movie stars, and musicians. Hayden also draws from her background in the decorative arts to embellish her chosen subjects with sumptuous materials and patterns, elevating the lowbrow into a sophisticated homage to her childhood heroes.

A Chicago native, Nicole has taken part in young artist programs such as Gallery 37, Marwen Foundation, and the Art Institute of Chicago. These opportunities inspired her to continue her art education at The University of Kansas where she earned a BFA. She further pursued her love of figurative painting at the California College of Arts and Crafts in San Francisco CA for her MFA.

The April 29th opening will feature captivating portraits of her favorite wrestlers, and a handful of gracefully painted, almost life-size works of beloved female icons. Accompanying her paintings are delicate graphite drawings and a limited edition of prints made especially for the show at Firecat Projects.