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"CHITS & CHATS"
05.03.24-06.14.24

Gallery Hours
Wednesday - Saturday 11:00 AM
5:00 PM

Opening Reception 05.03.24
5:00 - 8:00 PM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Habitat Contemporary Gallery is pleased
to present "**CHITS & CHATS**",
featuring works by Mark Cowardin



Habitat Contemporary Gallery is pleased to announce the new exhibition by Mark Cowardin, CHITS & CHATS. At the core of all of Mark's work is a keen awareness of his personal connection to the delicate environs of which he speaks. Much of the work begins with the observation of the absurd as it relates to the intersection of humans and the natural world, shedding light on the extreme beauty that ironically exists in some of humankind's most damaging examples of consumption. Chits & Chats is a body of work that illustrates these points in a variety of ways. This work is inspired by Mark's personal history of growing up surrounded by mining remnants and chat piles near his childhood home in rural Joplin. These locations once served as his magical playgrounds and regular destinations for youthful imagination. Simultaneously enchanting and horrific, these remnants of lead and zinc extraction expose the needs for more thoughtful and careful balance of interactions with nature. Most of the Chits & Chats works began with the molding of actual rocks from these playground/chat piles, and then cast into ceramic. Defying gravity and implying various functions of extraction and consumption, these works are playful illustrations of not only our dependence on nature, but also the impact of our presence.