



**Dennis McNett**  
*Reaping Waves and Vital Vessels:  
The Passing of the Wolfbats*

# Joshua Liner Gallery

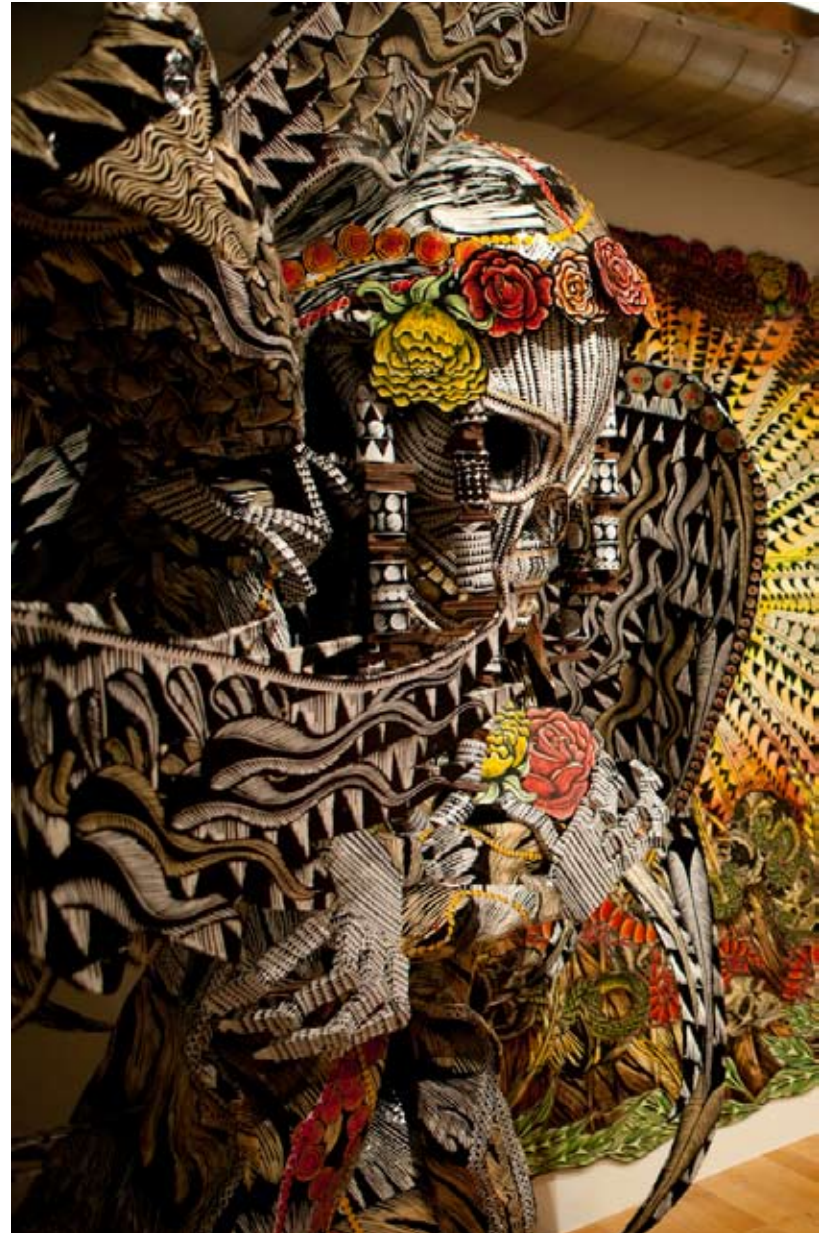
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## **Dennis McNett**

*Reaping Waves and Vital Vessels:  
The Passing of the Wolfbats*  
December 16, 2010 - January 20, 2011

Opening Reception:  
Thursday December 16, 6-9 pm

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## ***Reaping Waves and Vital Vessels: The Passing of the Wolfbat***

Joshua Liner Gallery, in collaboration with gallery artist Dennis McNett, is thrilled to present a first-ever, spectacular event in the streets of West Chelsea: *The Passing of the Wolfbats*. Part art parade, part shaman uprising, the “Passing of the Wolfbats” will gather art enthusiasts and neighborhood residents for a celebratory procession through the heart of the New York art world. The purpose? To wake up the city’s sleeping spirits of creativity, expression, and personal soulfulness.

Dennis McNett’s Viking ship procession kicks off an exhibition of new works by the artist at Joshua Liner Gallery. The show will include wood- and linocut works on paper and muslin, as well as large carved-wood panels that are hand-colored in acrylic, inked, and finished. Also included will be free-standing sculptures papered in McNett’s prints, such as “Santa Muerte,” more hanging wolfbats, and animals that carry personal and mythological significance for the artist. Throughout, McNett focuses on storytelling in images expressed by the bold, saturated line unique to relief printmaking. The artist’s vocabulary of images borrows freely from Greek and Norse myths, Mexican muertos, and the animal kingdom, all synthesized into an idiosyncratic style that is deeply heartfelt. Other characters and creatures include eagles, wolves, owls, and skeletons, some of which have been developed into live, impromptu performances in the public sphere.

McNett also unveils a series of Viking ship sculptures emblazoned with patterns and images from a variety of printing processes. These are memorial sculptures recognizing deceased friends and heroes from the artist’s past. Among the remembered are the late Andy Kessler, New York City skateboard pioneer; Richard Mock, the celebrated painter and linocut printmaker regularly featured by the *New York Times*; and the master printmaker and Kent State instructor, Tom Little. The ships represent each person with specific patterns, symbols, and imagery either carved into or printed onto the wood surface and sails. As McNett states, “The body is like a vessel, navigating water and waves. Ships have character: some know how to navigate the seas better than others. Some ships are driven by skilled and experienced captains. Some ships are beaten and weathered. Some have carried many passengers. Some show the way. Some vessels work together for a common goal or to form a stronger force.” The emotional tumult around these themes is faithfully evoked by the memorial ship sculptures and a crashing wave installation in the gallery.



*Santa Muerte*  
Hand colored wood cut prints,  
paper mache and wood  
120 x 72 x 48 in.  
2010

# Vessels



*Andy Kessler Vessel*  
Carved wood and woodcut prints  
86 x 84 x 20 in.  
2010



*Richard Mock Vessel*  
Carved wood and woodcut prints  
86 x 84 x 20 in.  
2010



*Tom Little Vessel*  
Carved wood and woodcut prints  
86 x 84 x 20 in.  
2010

**Hand carved, hand painted wood**



*Reaping Sun*  
Hand carved, hand painted wood  
72 x 72 in.  
2010



*Clash of Feather and Fang*  
Hand carved, hand painted wood  
44 x 89 in.  
2010



*Uncia Uncia*  
Hand carved, hand painted wood  
47 x 85 in.  
2010



*Crossing the Owl's Bridge*  
Hand carved, hand painted wood  
37 x 60 in.  
2010



*Merciful Saint of Death*  
Hand carved, hand painted wood  
56 x 39 in.  
2010



*Morrigan's Murder*  
Hand carved, hand painted wood  
42 x 43 in.  
2010



*Skoll: Sun Swallower*  
Hand carved, hand painted wood  
36 x 46 in.  
2010



*Midgard Serpent*  
Hand carved, hand painted wood  
58 x 19 in.  
2010



*Psychic Goat*

Hand carved, hand painted wood and

hand painted woodcut prints

48 x 37 in.

2010



*Lustful Faunus*  
Hand carved, hand painted wood  
59 x 14 in.  
2010



*Baron Samedi*

Hand carved, hand painted wood and  
hand painted woodcut prints

32 x 24 in.

2010

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