



YOGACATS

Andrej  
Bjelić



RESIDENCIES  
B ————— M



## RESIDENCIES

The B-Murals Artistic Residencies aim to foster artistic creation in conjunction with public space. Through the years, they have established themselves as a cornerstone of B-Murals' overarching vision.

Our Residency project provides a well-structured array of resources, spaces, and consistent services tailored for artists and creators who engage by responding to our yearly open call, initiated three years ago. Evolving gradually through minor refinements in structure, timing, and its follow-up approach, the B-Murals Residencies are now a firmly established artistic haven designed for urban artists and other forms of creative expression.

We annually select six creators, local or international, primarily specializing in visual and plastic arts, although they also encompass multidisciplinary talents. This encompasses a broad spectrum of disciplines, including urban art, visual arts, artistic research, and projects that bridge multiple fields, as long as their creative endeavors find a platform in the public space and cultivates a connection and dialogue with the local environment.

Within this residency space, notable artists like Spogo, Zane Prater, Roberto Rivadeneira, Gamze Yalcin, Julia Benz, Berni Puig, Mateu Targa, Irving Ramó, Guindilla y Vermú, Azpeger, Ivana Tarraza, Yat, Burcu Türker, Santiago Gómez Morrales, and Etienne Cristofanini have found a creative home. Overall, 15 artists have brought their visions to life here, spanning research, practical work, sharing

their creations, building networks, and simply immersing themselves in the blend of their creativity and the spirit of Barcelona.

In this particular edition, we've orchestrated a unique convergence of two international artists within the same temporal and spatial framework. The APRIL-JULY residencies have united Andrea Marchetti from Italy and Andrej Bjelić from Serbia. In their projects, they've established a direct link with the canvas, crafting artworks within a studio setting. However, their inspirations diverge: Bjelić focused on exploring the fluid movements of a feline character adopting yoga poses, employing layers of texture and vibrant strokes. On the other hand, Marchetti delved into characters interwoven with delicate lines and strokes, evoking cubism and surrealism. Both artists will showcase their parallel investigations in an exhibition at the B-Murals Gallery.

These residencies have done more than support artistic pursuits; they've also cultivated connections among similar-minded groups and organizations that share common objectives: a deep appreciation for art and a desire to empower local artists. In this spirit, the year 2023 has marked the creation of a significant partnership with foundation Sasa Marceta.

The B-Murals Art Residencies owe their existence to vital contributors, specifically the Generalitat de Catalunya, ICUB, Montana Colors, and Unite Hostel.

## SAŠA MARČETA FOUNDATION

In collaboration with the B-Murals art center, we have achieved an exceptionally successful partnership that connected the artist Andrej Bjelić from Belgrade with a three-month residential stay in Barcelona, which is now manifested through this exhibition. This collaboration has brought about a change in dynamics, an opportunity to travel to a new environment, and unforgettable experiences that have enriched Bjelić's artistic practice after an intense exhibition season. On this occasion, the Saša Marčeta Foundation would like to express gratitude to everyone who contributed to the realization of this connection, especially to David Pujado, Ana Bodroža, and the entire B-Murals team, who facilitated the collaboration and enabled us to enjoy this unforgettable journey.

### Saša Marčeta Foundation

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## UNITE HOSTEL

Unite Hostel offers accommodation to artists participating in the B-Murals residency programme during their stay in Barcelona. This collaboration allows us to offer different artistic activities, as well as touring art intervention spaces in our hostel. We wish to turn Unite Hostel Barcelona into a constantly evolving art gallery and offer our guests to experience local culture through a unique concept that breaks down the barriers between people and art.

In this way, several B-Murals artists have contributed to the development of the Unite identity.

Starting September 15, Andrej Bjelić will showcase part of his exhibition „Yoga Cats“ in our Hotel ONIX RAMBLA.

Onix Rambla embodies serenity and elegance at the very core of modernist Barcelona. We offer an immersive experience to our guests, so that they not only get to know the must of the city, but also connect with international artists.

From Onix Rambla it is a pleasure to collaborate with B-Murals and to continue supporting artists in the visibility of their works.

### Unite Hostel Barcelona

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## ANDREJ BJELIC



Andrej Bjelic was born in Aleksinac, Serbia in 1996. Early next year he moved to Belgrade where he now lives with his family.

The artist has been drawing and painting for as long as he can remember, inspired by his sense of self, perception of the world, special people and animals as an important part of his life. Coming from graphic design studies, he decided to dedicate his life to painting and presented his three first independent exhibitions: "This is Andrej Bjelic", "Fiery Pets" and "Lions on wires" in Belgrade between 2021 and 2023. These three exhibitions earned him the public's recognition very early on, placing him on the front row of Serbian emergent contemporary artistic community.

His work displays a mixed technique of pastel, acrylics and spray and features flat textured surfaces and strong suggestive strokes, resulting in a very naive and expressive ensemble.

Between April and July 2023, Andrej has been one of the guest authors for B-MURALS spring cycle art residence, courtesy of BIOSKOP BALKAN and FONDACIJA SAŠA MARČETA. For 3 months, the artist lived and worked in B-Murals' facilities in Barcelona, he now presents his newly joint exhibition "YOGA CATS".

## YOGA CATS

In his third cycle dedicated entirely to animals, more precisely to pets, Andrej Bjelic, a new Serbian "Wonderkid", star of urban, naive figuration, focuses on the world of cats. His humanized, anthropomorphic cats are performing Hatha yoga asanas in a particularly charming way, looking for balance and harmony, their bodies almost flying, remaining gracious even when they are upside down. Cut out with a thick contour in a manner of a draft, comic book, the figures are positioned on a bright, multicolor background, without any differentiation of picture plans, with "messy" colors and spray layers, the typical "street art look". These yellow, orange, red, green, blue kittens with a few neon burning tails and stylized paws, are not practicing yoga in synergy with their owners. They are independent yogis who perform their stretching and elongating in such a cuddly manner, that one might think they are natives to this practice, same as purring and meowing.

The Yoga Cats by Andrej Bjelic introduce something different, special, a Yoga-ballet series performed by an animal, a fresh idea and a „fresh breath“ of artistic, pictorial, values. One of the siddhis (special powers allegedly developed by yoga practice), the Vayu Siddhi translates like conquest of the air, literally implying to levitation. "Before starting yoga practice", state the Ha ha yoga texts, "the yogi must establish a suitable place, peaceful, away from all distractions", to be able to begin with postures - asanas. "These postures are, for a beginner, uncomfortable", writes the historian of religion Mircea Eliade, "typically difficult, cause the body to shake, and are typically unbearable to hold for extended periods of time. However, with repetition and persistence, as the muscle tone improves, the effort reduces and posture improves. Each posture becomes perfect when the „effort disappears“. Yoga cats by Andrej Bjelic have reached that rare, precious quality: effortless.

**Ana Popović Bodroža**  
Art Historian, Belgrade, 20.07.2023



LOCATION I

YOGACATS

**GALERÍA B-MURALS**

c/ Ferran Turné, 1-11  
08027 Barcelona

**Opening hours:**

Wednesday to Saturday  
11h to 19h

15.09.23 to 14.10.23



YC-01  
pastel and acrylic on canvas 130×162cm



YC-02  
pastel and acrylic on canvas 130×162cm



YC-03  
pastel and acrylic on canvas 130×162cm





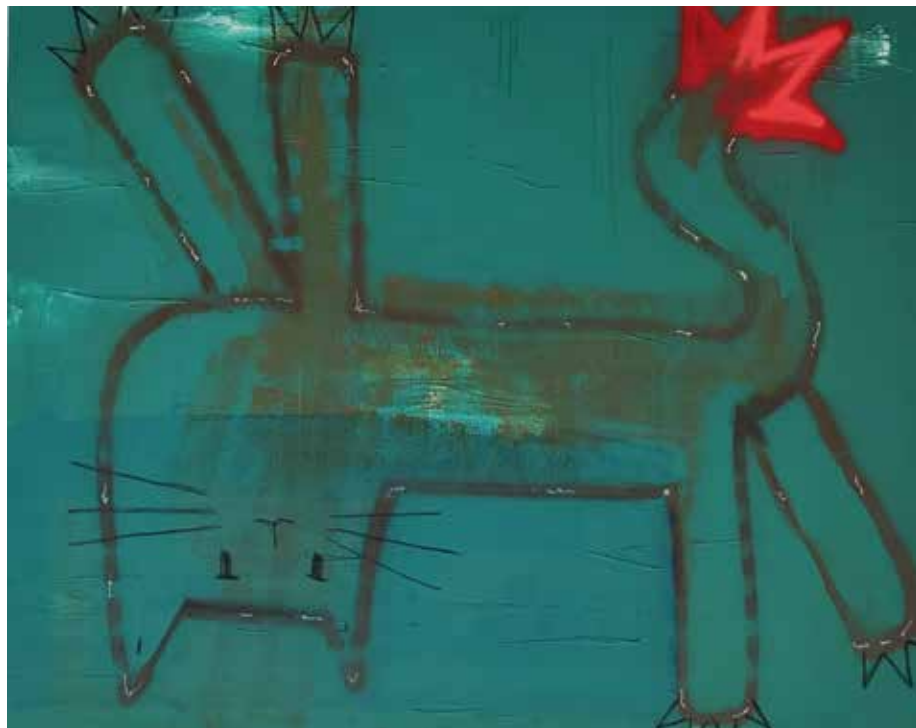
YC-04  
pastel and acrylic on canvas 130×195cm



YC-05  
pastel and acrylic on canvas 130×162cm



YC-06  
pastel and acrylic on canvas 130×162cm



YC-07  
pastel and acrylic on canvas 130×162cm



YC-08  
pastel and acrylic on canvas 130×162cm



YC-08  
pastel and acrylic on canvas 130×162cm





LOCATION 2

YOGACATS

**ONIX RAMBLA**

Rambla de Catalunya, 24,  
08007 Barcelona

**Opening hours:**

Monday to Sunday  
10h to 21h

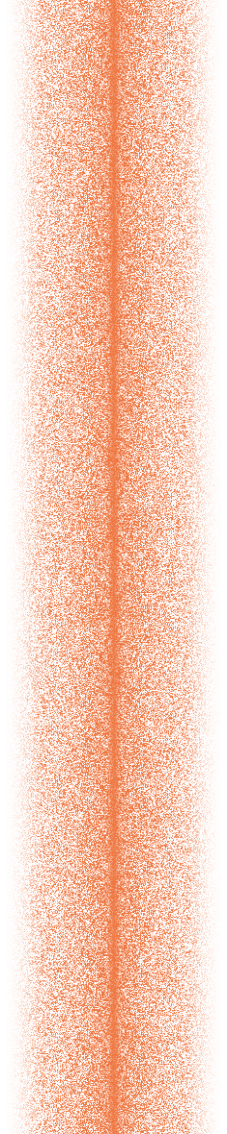
15.09.23 to 14.10.23



YC-09  
pastel and acrylic on canvas 162×130cm



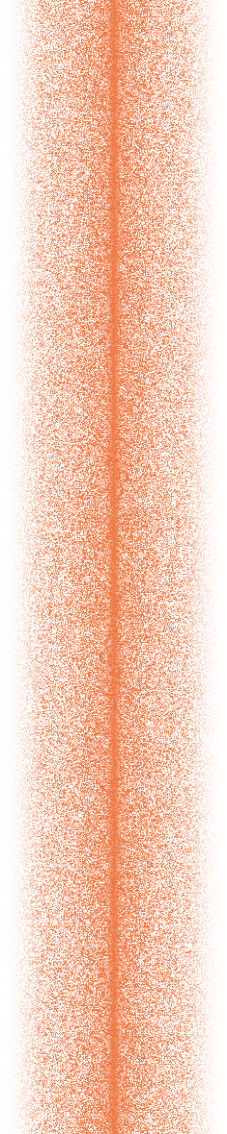
YC-10  
pastel and acrylic on canvas 162x130cm



YC-11  
pastel and acrylic on canvas 162x130cm



YC-12  
pastel and acrylic on canvas 162x130cm



YC-13  
pastel and acrylic on canvas 162x130cm



## THANK YOU

The 2023 spring summer residency at B-Murals was made possible thanks to the special collaboration and unconditional support of Saša Marčeta Foundation. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Ksenija Samardžija, David Pujado, Ana Bodroža, Danica Janković, and all the team of Saša Marčeta and Balkan Cinema in Belgrade.

Thank you to the Unite Hostel team, who allows our resident artists to stay at their accommodations in Barcelona and support artistic production and events organisation in their facilities. Eva Llarás, Alvaro Llarás, Laura Torrent Gómez and all the team of Onix Ramblas, Unite Hostel and Onix Liceo for their hospitality and collaboration.

During this residency Andrej Bjelić shared the studio with fellow artist Andrea Marchetti. They will present their joint exhibition at B-Murals on September 15th, 2023.

We want to promote the B-Murals residency as a breeding ground for artistic and cultural exchange and continue strengthening partnerships and collaborations throughout the years.

**B-MURALS RESIDENCY**  
**Barcelona 2023**

**Catalogue YOGA CATS**

Idea & Coordination  
**Léa Fauroux & Ana Manaia**

Design  
**Monika Pufflerová**

Photography  
**Sebastian Peinado**

Printing  
**Fast Impressio**

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### COLLABORATORS AND SPONSORS

Special partnership and collaborator  
in Andrej Bjelić's residency  
**Saša Marčeta and Balkan Cinema Belgrade**

FOUNDATION  
SAŠA MARČETA



Main Collaborator of the Residency Project  
**Unite Hostel**



Collaborator  
**Nau Bostik**

nau  
**Bostik**

Sponsor and Collaborator  
**Montana Colors**



Institutional Sponsor  
**ICUB - Barcelona**



Institutional Sponsor  
**Generalitat de Catalunya**



Work and artistic proposal  
**Andrej Bjelić**

Residency shared with  
**Andrea Marchetti**

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### B-MURALS TEAM

Director  
**Ana Manaia**

Co-director  
**Xavier Ballaz**

Comunitary & Education Program  
**Aïda Gómez**

Residencies Program & Communication  
**Léa Fauroux**



