

Shark Girl: Never Quite There

May 27–October 1

Clifton Hall Link

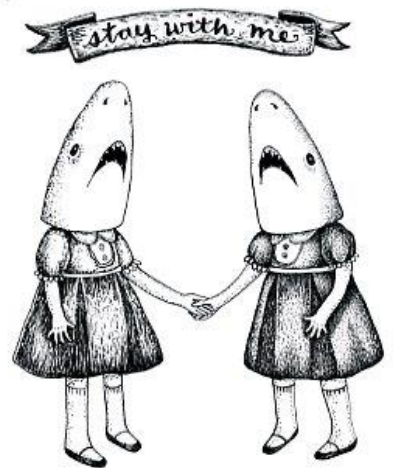
Who is Shark Girl? Where did she come from? The enigmatic character of Shark Girl, the iconic creation of Casey Riordan Millard (American, born 1973), has been on a journey of self-discovery and existential endurance for more than a decade. Millard's fantastical and ridiculous combination of a shark head atop a little girl's frame destines this inscrutable individual for all manner of mishaps and adventures. In the works on view here, we witness the solitude, struggle, and absurdity of Shark Girl's precarious situation.

Part of Shark Girl's inherent charm rests in the unexpected juxtaposition between symbols of innocence and primal terror. The preposterousness of her circumstances generally proves isolating for her. She yearns to be normal, to have fun at the party, to play with friends. But because Shark Girl must constantly confront the limitations of her form, she is fated to experience life as a series of difficult and awkward interactions.

Shark Girl is unable to demonstrate affect—sharks can't smile, after all—and this only makes connecting with others more challenging. Shark Girl cannot share her joy when she feels it. We are left to presume and project that she is having at least some fun some of the time. Won't you join her? It might just cheer you both up.

This exhibition is organized by Curator of Public Art Aaron Ott. It is supported by The Seymour H. Knox Foundation.

Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Stay with Me, 2008
India ink on paper
Private Collection



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
My Name Is Shark Girl, 2007
Mixed media on record album
Private Collection



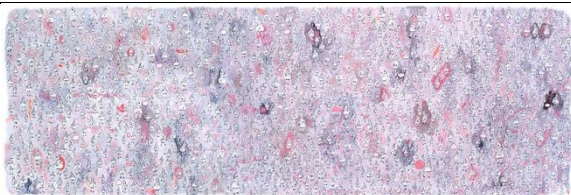
Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl with Brick Disco Ball, 2008
Mixed media on record album
Private Collection



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
1,000 Shark Girls Holding a Piece of Paper They Intend on Folding into a Crane, 2009
India ink, watercolor, and gouache on paper
Private Collection



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
1,000 Shark Girls with Incomplete Task, 2009
India ink, watercolor, and gouache on paper
Private Collection



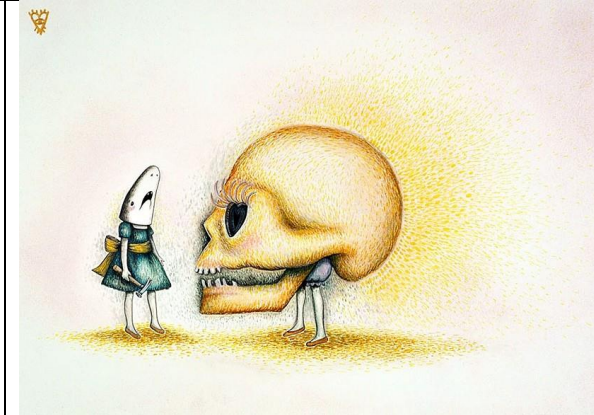
Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
I Want You to Be Real, 2010
Mixed media on paper
Collection of the artist



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Hammers vs. Skulls, 2010
Hand-painted etching
Collection of Adam and Carrie Biales



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl with Hammer and Skull, 2010
Mixed media on paper
Private Collection



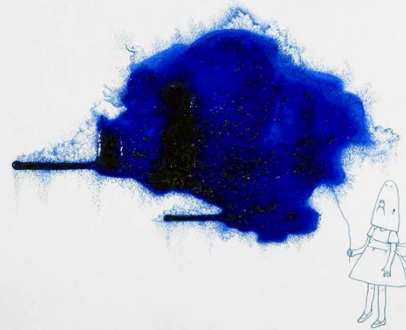
Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Skipping through the Idyllic, 2011
Mixed media on paper
Collection of Joseph Feldhaus and
Marcheta Gillam



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Pink Cake Topper, 2007
Gouache on paper
Private Collection



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl with Blue Cloud, 2011
Mixed media on paper
Private Collection



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl by the Sea (with Cancer), 2005
Watercolor and gouache on paper
Collection of the artist



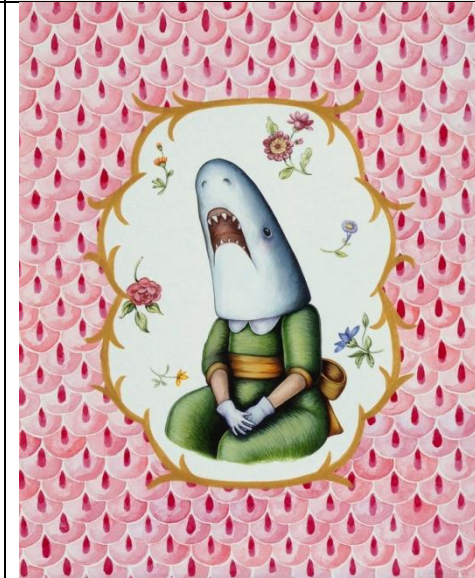
Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl on Swing, 2007
Watercolor and gouache on paper
Private Collection



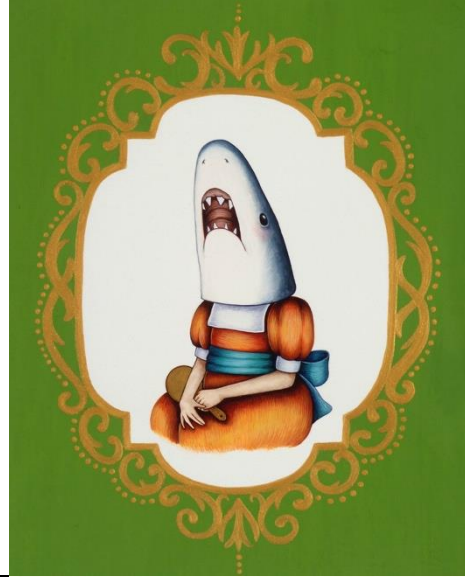
Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl on Pink Buffalo, 2012
Watercolor and gouache on paper
Collection of Ilene Young



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl with Gloves, 2007
Watercolor and gouache on paper
Collection Siegel / Jacobs Family



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl with Hand Mirror, 2007
Watercolor and gouache on paper
Collection of Adam and Carrie Biales



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl with Brick Wall, 2006
Watercolor and gouache on paper
Collection of Mamie and Justin Stewart



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl Riding Blue Bird, 2007
Watercolor and gouache on paper
Private Collection



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl on Branch, 2007
Watercolor and gouache on paper
Private Collection



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl with Pink Cloud, 2013
Mixed media
Collection of the artist



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl on Float, 2007
Painted porcelain
Private Collection



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl on Blue Bird, 2007
Painted porcelain and bronze
Collection of Elissa and Sean Donovan



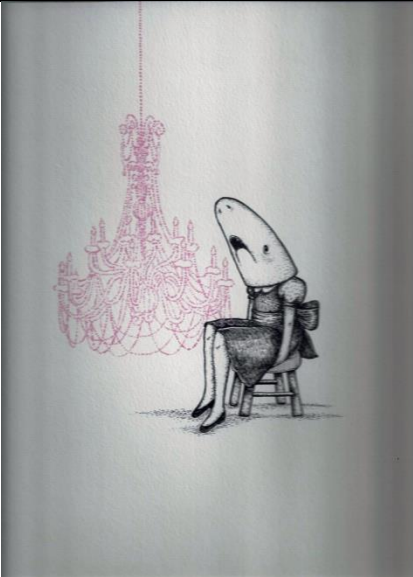
Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl on Branch, 2007
Painted porcelain
Private Collection



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl with Dead Rainbow, 2008
Painted porcelain
Private Collection



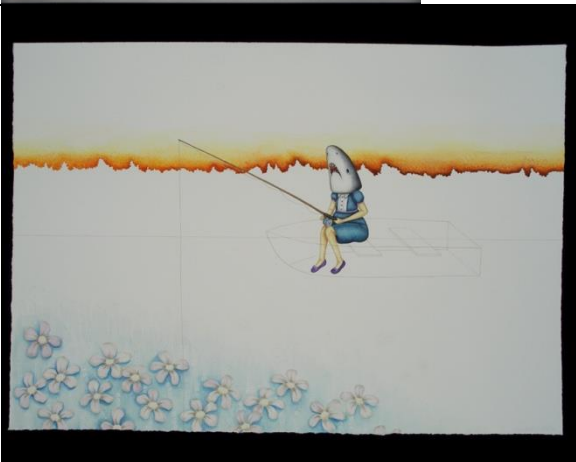
Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl with Pink Chandelier, 2010
India ink and gouache on paper
Collection of Carolyn Gutjahr



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl with Green Chandelier, 2010
India ink and gouache on paper
Private Collection



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
Shark Girl with Sunrise, 2007
Watercolor and gouache on paper
Private Collection



Casey Riordan Millard
American, born 1973
I Can't Even Save Myself, 2010

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| Mixed media on paper Private Collection | |
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