

Merren Garland

Mungo, the Wholly Terrier

Mixed Media: Acrylic and gilding wax on gessoed hardboard

Artist's Statement

Before Mungo, it was a lonely time. We'd moved from Oregon back to New Hampshire, where we both grew up, to renovate a family home. But family was gone, and friends mostly scattered. Jim was traveling the region to earn a living, and I was struggling to find an art community. I began to envision a Scottie Dog coming to live with us. I had already found his name: "Mungo", which means "Dear One", the nickname of St. Kentigern, patron saint of Glasgow, Scotland. My vision of Mungo grew. When we moved back to Salem, OR, we found a breeder of Scottish Terriers, and Mungo arrived in Sept. 2014. We visited and began to bond. Soon Mungo came home! We walked him, took him to obedience classes, and loved him.

I loved reading *Walking with Peety*, twice. Like the author, Eric O'Grey, I'd never had a dog, until my envisioned Mungo, the Scottish terrier, arrived. As Eric did with Peety, we have experienced the special bond of walking him, as well as increased social interaction due to being out with other dog walkers, and smiles and compliments from other walkers, "What a handsome dog!" We call him "The Scottish Ambassador". Mungo takes us for walks in our lovely Salem parks and we are grateful to have this dog-walking outlet, especially in this constricted pandemic time. Being outdoors, exercising, escaping isolation helps us stay somewhat sane and grounded in the real world...Thanks to Mungo, we are not lonely anymore. And he is a "dear one"! Although not quite a saint...

Artist's Bio

Merren Garland is a BFA graduate of University of New Hampshire, I have always made art: prints, paintings, drawings, and more. I have been making icons of cats since his children studied Romanesque art in school. This is the first icon I have created of a dog: Mungo, the Scottish "Wholly Terrier." This Icon painting inspiration began with the frame: an old cabinet door found in a historic house in NH, refinished by my husband. Gessoed hardboard was cut to fit, and painted cerulean blue. A copper-colored halo was applied in gilding wax. With further painting with acrylic, Mungo was richly robed and detailed, and given lots of silver brindle fur.

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Art Label:

Name: Merren Garland

Title: Mungo, the Wholly Terrier

Medium: Acrylic and gilding wax on gessoed hardboard

Size: 16" x 20" framed

Price: \$580.00