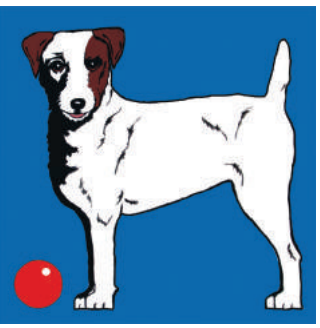
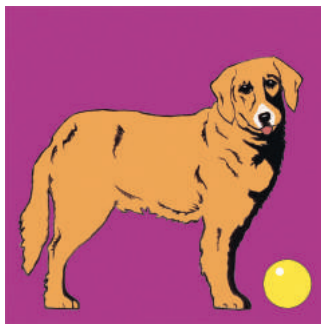
& DOGS



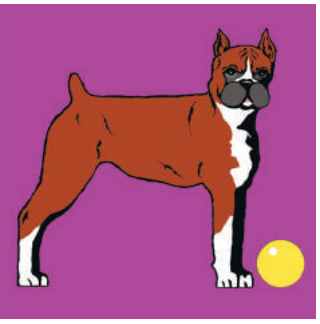
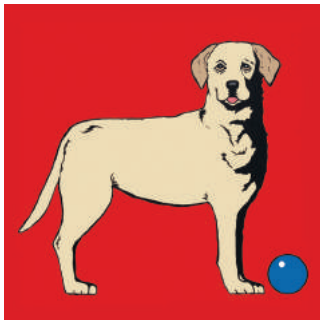
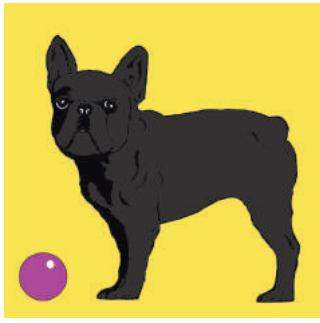
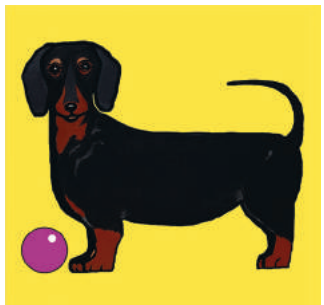


There is a special feeling one gets when a dog "smiles" and wags its happy tail. Artist Gloria Lee captures these endearing doggie emotions in *Pop Dogs*.

In order to really paint dogs, you must know and love dogs, and Gloria Lee is a true dog-lover. Her love for dogs began in her childhood: "When I hear the song, 'I Left My Heart in San Francisco,'" Lee says smiling, "it reminds me of my childhood friend and first love, Myrtle—the wonder dog who liked to eat bubble gum and gingersnaps (although I probably shouldn't have given them to her)."

Having grown up in San Francisco in the 1960s, Gloria Lee experienced the pivotal beginnings of Pop Art. This artistic movement—almost a backlash of the American Impressionist movement—started in the Bay Area with artists like Wayne Thieboud and Richard Diebenkorn. For Lee, it was only natural to begin painting dogs with a Pop Art influence.

Pop Dogs are fun, sophisticated, and easy to relate to, and yet they deliver a powerful impact on the viewer. Unlike many dog artists today who use photographs and computer programs, Gloria Lee paints each one by hand, paying close attention to each breed's unique expression, color and personality. "I just want to paint them all first," Lee explains. "The American Kennel Club has established several different breeds, and each year they add more—I may never catch up!"

But whether or not Lee has caught up, *Pop Dogs* are catching on. Galleries and Fine Boutiques across America are starting to feature Gloria Lee in their mix of artists, and she has had many inquiries about the use of *Pop Dogs* in ancillary applications.

With her deep affection for "Man (and Woman's) best friend," Gloria Lee created *Pop Dogs* in celebration of what all dog-lovers know: "Dogs are the epitome of everything we should hope to be."