

Sit back, relax, have a hot dog

Local art scene. How a local artist is found a fan base and a new direction



BACKSTAGE PASS
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Furniture is scarce in Nick Brunt's new apartment.

The local artist and I sit on the floor surrounded by his latest works and his record collection.

I assume future furniture will include a drawing table or easel, but Brunt tells me, "I have to work on the floor where everything is within reach."

Brunt's laidback approach to his process is a delightful symptom of his "weird entrance" into the art world.

"I was into animation and graffiti art when I was younger, and now I work in design," he said.

"I don't really have any formal art training."

As a creative member of the design world, Brunt creates everything from graphics for advertising to art for



Nick Brunt inside his apartment surrounded by his latest works. JENNA CONTER/METRO

Quote

"I still draw, but it eventually came down to making canvasses and how can I get these into a show and that's when it started to take on a different life, I guess."

Nick Brunt
On creative choices.

album covers, the latter of which is dropped into my lap by Brunt, gleaming with the genuine excitement of a child who just a gold star on their homework.

"It's my first nationally released (artwork). Isn't that fun?!"

Four years ago, Brunt took his art from the office to the galleries and seemed to fumble into a fan base.

"I had donated art into a charity art event in Halifax and (the owner of Argyle Fine Art) got a hold of it and it grew from there."

According to Brunt, his latest solo show, Hotdogs! Hotdogs! Hotdogs!, at Argyle Fine Art is "a sarcastic comment about the culture we're living in now."

"Everybody hates (hot dogs) now or knows how bad they are for you, but we have

fond memories of throwing back two or three and playing," he said. "And after going through this anti-hot dog culture for so long, I just wanted to say shut up and have a (expletive) hot dog!"

The show opens Friday at 7 p.m.

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SCENE

Scene in brief

Mulroneys says Good Morning

One of Canada's best-known TV personalities is joining the weekend edition of Good Morning America. ABC says Ben Mulroneys will begin appearing on the New York City-based series this Saturday. That's in addition to his ongoing role as co-anchor of CTV's entertainment show eTalk. The job follows Mulroneys's two recent appearances as co-host of the morning talk show Live! with Kelly Ripa. THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the web



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