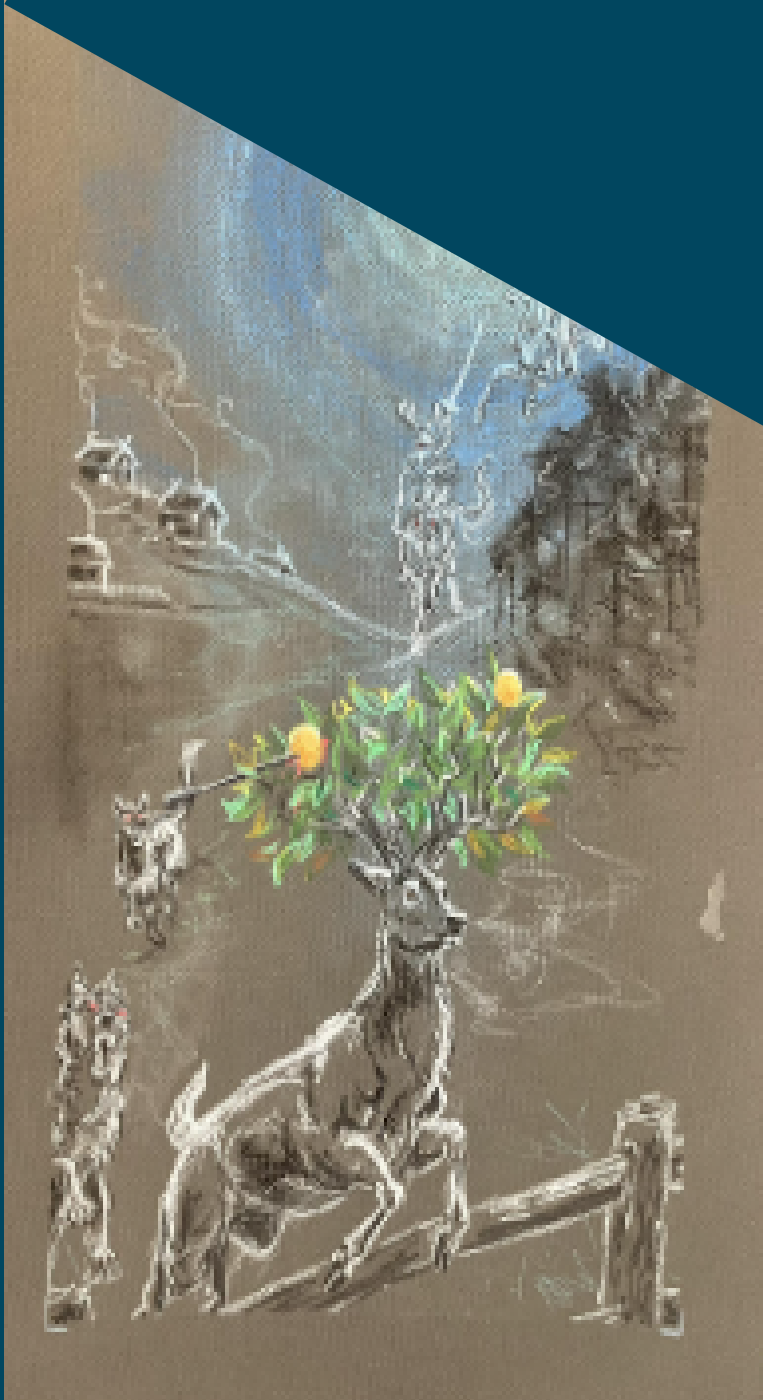


# Goats & Mead



Autumn Dufresne is the owner of The Borrowed Homestead, sells her own artwork through Singing Dog Visual Arts, and is the designer for many of the labels at Groennfell Meadery in Vermont. **What do all of her passions have in common?** A love of animals and nature. Not only do her topics tend to cover animals, plants, and scenes from wild places, but she often finds a canvas in the things of the natural world as well. Sketching may be done on paper, but the final product is usually on stone, wood, shells, or even leaves.



Autumn Dufresne. "Wild Hunt Release Poster" Pastels and ink on black heavyweight art paper.

Autumn Dufresne. "Yule Goat" Acrylic paint and alcohol inks slate.



Her goat Ciabatta and his father, O'Malley, have been a source of inspiration for her. O'Malley was a San Clemente Island Goat – one of the last high-percentage New Hampshire line bucks- a rare specimen even for this endangered breed. Ciabatta is an SCI/alpine cross and the current ruler of the buck yard. They can both be found in her personal artwork, as well as her professional. Whether standing on the sidelines for a Groennfell seasonal mug or the centerpiece of a stone painting, their eye-catching horns turn heads.



The Groennfell Meadery owners, Ricky and Kelly Klein share Autumn's passion for all things natural and roll it in with their desire for community and feasting. From their dog-friendly work environment to their nature-themed labels and culturally-neutral marketing, their business is built to emphasize family, community, and a healthier environment. They use metal cans which are more environmentally friendly, to recycle and make a dryer, carbonated mead to make it less expensive and more accessible to the community.



To Ricky, the goat is a connection to the land and nature. He talks about his children being born and holding a goat roast. There were living goats for people to handle, pat and enjoy while the meal allowed for a genuine connection between where our food comes from and what is sacrificed for our health. He says that this event, more than anything, had led him to try and live an even more environmentally sustainable life and to be able to grow and raise his food for their children.





Of course, you won't find goats on every Groennfell label. Trees, stags, and the occasional hermit pop up even more frequently. However, you will find them in places you wouldn't expect! A recent limited-edition run called "Smoke on the Mountain" features a dragon whose face resembles Ciabatta!

It just shows you that goats really can get into everything.



Autumn Dufresne.  
"Smoke on the Mountain Label Art"  
Mixed media - hand drawn line art of black ink on cardstock. Digital color added post-scanning by Kelly Klein.

# Learn more



San Clemente Island Goat  
Breeders Association

[scigba.org](http://scigba.org)



Singing Dog Visual Arts

[www.facebook.com/SongDogCreations](http://www.facebook.com/SongDogCreations)



Groennfell Meadery.

[groennfell.com](http://groennfell.com)