

## Ripley's picks up dog-hair portraits

By [Dewayne Bevil](#)



Dog hair makes up this image of singer John Lennon. It was created by Mateo Blanco and purchased by Ripley's. (Ripley Entertainment)

**R**ipley's has gone to the dogs ... but in a good way.

Orlando-based Ripley Entertainment has purchased three celebrity portraits that are made out of dog hair. The artist is Mateo Blanco, a Colombian-American opera singer who has created other visual works for Ripley's.

The recent purchased portray musicians John Lennon, Michael Jackson and Jimi Hendrix. They are expected to be unveiled at the Ripley's Odditorium on International Drive at 10 a.m. Friday. Blanco will be there too.

Blanco says he was listening to Lennon songs when he became inspired to salute the late singers using dog hair available from a groomer. Blanco has portraits made of sugar in the Orlando attraction. Ripley's has a history of acquiring art made of nontraditional media, ranging from jelly beans to dryer lint.

The Jackson portrait will remain in Orlando. Lennon and Hendrix will go to Ripley attractions in Mexico City and Key West, respectively.