

Brad Kronz

*Strong and Tough*

Exhibition 19.06. - 31.07.2021

The original concept for this show was to make individual artworks that aren't necessarily interconnected, almost how a painter might do a show of seemingly unrelated images that inspire them, in their signature style or styles. It was promptless at first, meaning I began work before I was invited anywhere. Approaching a theme though, I do think of all the works as being defeated or pushed aside in some way.

The very small sculpture wearing a helmet is obsessed with its own preservation and multidimensional nature to the point of being obscured. The piece with the brown & yellow bumpers is flattened in a permanent storage mode, like the crassness of a horseshoe on a horse's hoof or something. The orange collage shows two people sleeping peacefully in one frame and anxiously awake in the other—it's been defaced with a statement about only having been to Berlin 3 times, which is already outdated and incorrect.

*Death in Nature* began as an inside joke with myself, remembering when someone says the back of my artwork looks more interesting than the front. When I was in this video class in college, people in critiques would sometimes suggest if someone's work was boring: "have you thought of this as an installation?" Of course so you wouldn't have to watch the whole thing. This type of advice that's often an insult.

The character photographed in the two photo collage pieces is this being that is in-between a person and an object. It is an object of neglect that multiplies like flies or ants in your kitchen, or dust. It inhabits art places that are being neglected and misused, and will buy its own work which benefits the gallery and discourages actual living artists, as its form of reproduction. Its art resembles a form of clutter. I also think that its exhibitions would be online-only.

The plaster block is based around these security blocks that appear in major metropolitan areas, to prevent someone from driving into a crowd etc. My versions are smaller and more decorative, plaster instead of concrete with nicer finishes. Sometimes you'll see these blocks in real life decorated. In New York I recently saw some that were billed as a platform for artists to show their work, selected from a competition. The idea in mine is that it could host a very casual retrospective instead.

The piece with the DUKE sticker— It's kind of just a big empty box, but more about emptiness being not neutral. It's in part based off of a recurring dream where I am stuck in grade 12 and they won't let me graduate because I'm forgetting about some class or test, and I'm 34.

The show title *Strong and Tough* is like a protection or incantation against your imaginary enemies. Being dominated by anxieties about meaningless things. All the little cutesy characters in the show are these antagonists that are barely antagonistic, only to you privately. Like waking up with your hand numb from sleeping on it in a weird position and in that moment being convinced you will never have feeling in it again. These types of problems!



Brad Kronz  
*The corner*, 2021  
 Acrylic paint, chipboard, insulation foam, aluminum box, brass fasteners, zip ties  
 90 x 97 x 14 cm



Brad Kronz  
*The new rockstar for sane people*, 2021  
 Mat Board, photos, brass fasteners  
 70 x 78 x 6 cm



Brad Kronz  
*Giraffe*, 2021  
 Oil on canvas, wood, string, sinkers  
 102 x 37 x 4 cm



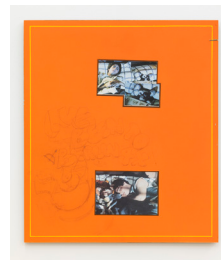
Brad Kronz  
*Brothers in Arms III*, 2021  
 Acrylic paint, chipboard, photo collage, wooden stretcher bars  
 29 x 22,5 x 3 cm



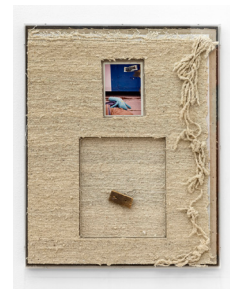
Brad Kronz  
*Big Box*, 2021  
 Acrylic glass, decal, wood, string, fabric, chipboard, felt  
 120 x 83 x 83 cm



Brad Kronz  
*Treated Very Unfairly*, 2021  
 Acrylic glass, fabric, Plastic, ribbon, stuffing, wire, wood, brackets, screws  
 28 x 25 x 25 cm



Brad Kronz  
*Setting Sun Version of Rest*, 2020  
 Collage, acrylic on chipboard, wood  
 80 x 73 cm



Brad Kronz  
*Wet Spot II*, 2020  
 Photo with fabric in plexi box  
 61 x 48 cm



Brad Kronz  
*Bumper*, 2021  
 Pencil on paper, carpet, wood, masking tape  
 100 x 78 x 13 cm  
 80 x 31,5 cm



Brad Kronz  
*Key Deposit Saga*, 2021  
 Key, keychain, felted paper, marker, wood  
 80 x 74 x 7 cm



Brad Kronz  
*Death in Nature*, 2021  
 Acrylic glass, acrylic on canvas, chipboard, wood, felt, brass fasteners  
 106 x 60 x 9,5 cm



Brad Kronz  
*A Platform*, 2021  
 Plaster, shellac, custom keychain, graphite on paper, photo collage, steel hardware  
 40 x 56,5 x 36,5 cm



Brad Kronz  
*Brothers in Arms II*, 2021  
 Xerox, acrylic glass, chipboard, contact paper  
 29 x 22,5 x 3 cm



Brad Kronz  
*The new rockstar for sane people II*, 2021  
 Mat Board, photos, brass fasteners  
 55 x 42,5 x 5 cm