

Josh Faught

*Look Across the Water Into the Darkness, Look for the Fog*

January 13–March 5, 2022

Josh Faught triangulates the spaces between personal and social/political histories, high and low culture, and the history of textiles. This new body of work articulates the often ambivalent relationships between material, language, and community, and operates from the premise that if political rhetoric is fundamentally a desire to communicate, the ability to speak through textiles allows us to embrace a personal and political continuum that is at once open, fragmentary, experiential, and physical.

It asks: how can we say something urgently through the *slowest* means possible? How do we orient, embody, and materialize queer objects?

Long inspired by archives and collections, the artist scavenged many of these objects and ephemera from thrift stores or sourced them from queer identified internet sellers. They point to the idiosyncratic ways in which we fill time but also refer to another cultural moment (the eighties and nineties) that parallels the one we are currently living through, when conversations around the body politic overlapped with an existential illness and a shared feeling of paranoia.

Acting as a murky bridge between two generations haunted by illness, the exhibition is a meditation on the complex ways queer bodies negotiate trauma, time, intimacy, joy, and resilience.

Josh Faught (b. 1979, St. Louis, Missouri) lives and works in San Francisco, California.

*Josh Faught: Look Across the Water Into the Darkness, Look for the Fog* is curated by Kim Nguyen and organized by Diego Villalobos. The exhibition is made possible thanks to generous support from Bill True and the San Francisco Arts Commission. Special thanks to Kendall Koppe Gallery, Glasgow. In addition to the aforementioned names, the artist thanks Shane Bellmer, Effie Cobarrubia, Amadi Greenstein, Flint Jamison, and Wattis Institute staff.

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