

Image: Min Wong, The Struggle is Real, Purple Haze exhibition. Courtesy the artist.

# SOUL SEEKER SHANA MOULTON X MIN WONG

#### Exhibition

13 August - 2 October 2022

#### Launch

Saturday 13 August 6-8pm

## Art Store Takeover

Katy B Plummer

## Project Space 1

Monica Rudhar, Kit Bylett, and Rachel Levine 13 August - 4 September Opens Saturday 13 August 6-8pm

### Project Space 2

Simone Darcy 8 September - 2 October Opens Saturday 10 September 3-5pm

# SOUL SEEKER SHANA MOULTON X MIN WONG

In our 4th annual international pairing, Cement Fondu presents **Soul Seeker: Shana Moulton X Min Wong**, an exhibition that explores the relationship between consumerism, self-care and the search for spirituality.

Feeling evermore poignant following the lockdowns of COVID-19, the artists present installations that channel common anxieties and desires relating to longing and belonging. In their works, familiar yet surreal scenarios are characterised by the objects and activities of everyday life, and reflect a shared drive to personal improvement that is deeply embedded in the day-to-day and normalised in conceptions of self. Relatable, humorous and profound, their works embrace a mundane desire for a better life that plays out in quests for meaning and validation.

New York based artist Shana Moulton uses video, sculptural installation and performance to evoke a sometimes claustrophobic domestic world inhabited by her alter ego Cynthia, who suffers from hypochondria and agoraphobia. Through Cynthia's interactions with new age paraphernalia and animated encounters within her home and natural surroundings, Moulton paints a picture of a woman both trapped and comforted by the walls of domesticity; confined by phobias and anxieties yet freed through escapes from reality.

Commissioned by Cement Fondu, Sydney-based Min Wong presents a major new installation, Lone Wolf, 2022, which explores contemporary metaphysical narratives, esoteric practices, ritual and the relationship of spiritual guru and seeker. Wong's work is informed by her personal search for meaning through spirituality and fitness practices, and reflects diverse influences and lived experiences including Evangelistic Christianity in childhood and her Chinese father's ritualistic practices as a Taoist.

Lone Wolf will be Wong's most ambitious work to date, creating an immersive environment that embodies and disrupts the architecture, equipment and ethos of exercise and wellness centres, adopting tropes drawn from the fitness 'cult' CrossFit and online spiritual leaders. The work also features 3D rendered elements made by artist and frequent collaborator Brie Trenery. Through an ambivalent approach, which creates space for both cynicism and hope, Lone Wolf uniquely examines the conflicting dualities of contemporary spirituality.

Highlighting the absurdity of our increasingly commodified bids for happier realities and more peaceful minds, these two artists simultaneously touch on the deep human desire to sense personal significance and belonging within the bigger picture.

#### PUBLIC PROGRAMS

## Project Space 1: Self Care Activations

Saturday August 13, 6-8pm

Sonic Performance: Alexandra Spence + Elia Bosshard

Saturday 20 August, 6-8pm, RSVP link

KUDOS Takeover + First Thursdays Gallery Night

Thursday 1 September, 5-7pm

Digital Artist Talk: Shana Moulton & Min Wong

Released Friday 2 September

Project Space 1: Self Care Activations

Saturday September 3, all day

Project Space 2: Launch

Opens Saturday 10 September 3-5pm

Music Performance: Flower Boy Live

TBC Date

Art Store Takeover: Katy B Plummer Activations

Saturday October 1, all Day



Shana Moulton, Personal Steam Interface, 2019, exhibition view Zabludowicz Collection, London. Courtesy the artist and Zabludowicz Collection. Photo: Tim Bowditch