

3/30/2023

***I Would Cease To Be II/II* — Erika Rios Hickie**

@ Apartment 13 Gallery

Press Release by Rachelle Rahme:

*I Would Cease to Be (II)*

Images of doubling haunt *I Would Cease to Be (I)*. Allusions to transient states, such as the periodicity of the temporal filmic happening, the photographic print and silkscreen, rendered in supple fabrics such as velvet, silk, and linen are affixed in time/space with staples and pins, reiterating ideas on the instability of representation, its model as inexact multiple, one that bleeds, a multi-angular (never perfect) close-up. *I Would Cease to Be (II)* emphasizes both the reproducibility and fixity of sainthood, its iconic nature, the star in its replicability, and in that, the homogeneity of stardom, what allows it to function as container for beauty and eros, and aesthetics as a form of touching. In one piece, skeins and veils elegantly weep in chains of pins on draping blacks, some with pinstripes, suggesting a structural addition to the interstitial, psychic remnants that ecstatic experience may contain. Herein lies the mystery of the itinerary. On March 30, 2023, *I Would Cease to Be (I)* and *I Would Cease to Be (II)* will overlap in status of their discrete assemblages, instituting a double bind, and exploiting a duality in this series that tears at its own edges in search of reconfiguration. -RR