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## Matjames Metson

A Tower

September 8 - October 28, 2023



Matjames Metson A Tower, 2023 Mixed media 86 x 19 x 26 inches

At seven and a half feet, *A Tower* resembles both a fortified tower and a reliquary. Composed of thousands of found antique objects meticulously assembled by the artist over the course of fourteen years, the work demands interaction with its hinged doors, kaleidoscope, and secret compartments. Metson's molded glass windows contain black and white portraits, sterling silver butter knives, rusted keys, rosary beads, animal skulls, and excerpts of letters between lovers. With *A Tower*, Metson recalls America's past: a time when the prevailing notion of beauty was the careful craftsmanship of raw materials. Inspired by Victorian architecture and Eastlake furniture, Metson creates an object that is at once functional and ornate. *A Tower* stands against what is trending—art that is digital, impersonal, and devoid of the artist's hand—and remembers a simpler past, as if from a dream.