



HEADS & TAILS IN THE STRUGGLE FOR ICONICITY

Juliana Huxtable

There is a collection of shadows purporting itself to be an archive,
I turn towards the shadows to shield my face, dancing backwards

I want to want, yet
my want is to want no more,
To be a stick again,
Wavering hungry and desiccated
Yet full of love, unindividuated and not my own, for
Country
Capital,
Both dressing insistences which are
supranational By virtue of their nationality

I am on my knees, mouth agape,
A digital-camera-generated RAW file
In a .psd
Gripping the wood grains of
The tattered deck of a cruiser, whose taut underbelly bears a face,
immortalized as protrusive index
Of faceness,
Facing outward, now under the sweaty feet of
A meaty stick, rolling by.

This is my want,
To get fucked in the shen yun LED advertising truck
Rolling across the Williamsburg bridge
Seen by the meaty stick

As pure LED propaganda
Flattening what cannot be so,
in protrusion-orientation
Is a photo on a sticker of
Pornographic close up
Is taboo transgressed as
Dimensionality, the movement up its ranks
To the 3rd dimension again

I AM NOT FLAT
AM A POPPING
AM A FEELING

Am willing to bet on it
Heads or tails
in the struggle for iconicity,
In which
I have my distensions
Am realer than real
Unmovable writing on the wall of a bathroom stall
Stickers flickering in the club bathroom
Cruiser deck
cruiser

List of Works (Clockwise from Entrance)

1. *IGGY ANARCHY, 2024*
Acrylic, button and vinyl stickers on printed canvas
152 x 349.5 x 4 cm (59 7/8 x 137 5/8 x 1 5/8 in)
2. *ATHRO ANARCHY, 2024*
Acrylic and vinyl stickers on printed canvas
152 x 349.5 x 4 cm (59 7/8 x 137 5/8 x 1 5/8 in)
3. *PANGS, 2024*
Acrylic and vinyl stickers on printed canvas
152 x 114.6 x 4 cm (59 7/8 x 45 1/8 x 1 5/8 in)
4. *SKINKISM, 2024*
Acrylic, button and vinyl stickers on printed canvas
152 x 114.6 x 4 cm (59 7/8 x 45 1/8 x 1 5/8 in)
5. *Untitled, 2024*
Car bumper, vinyl stickers
65 x 180 x 55 cm (25 5/8 x 70 7/8 x 21 5/8 in)

Juliana Huxtable (Born 1987, Bryan-College Station, Texas, US)

Selected solo and group exhibitions include MoCA Busan, Busan; New Museum, New York; MOMA PS1, New York; Brooklyn Museum, New York; Hayward Gallery, London; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Astrup Fearnley Museum, Oslo; Migros Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Zurich; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; Institute for Contemporary Art, Boston; Institute for Contemporary Art, London; Serpentine Gallery, London; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Centre d'Art Contemporain, Geneva; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Museum of Modern Art, New York, amongst others.

In 2017, Huxtable published *Mucus in My Pineal Gland*, an acclaimed volume of poems, performance scripts and essays. Public collections include Solomon R. Guggenheim, New York; Frans Hals Museum, Haarlem; Magasin III Museum for Contemporary Art, Stockholm and The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York.