

# Shine

## Garrett Lockhart

January 18th to March 1st, 2025

Home can mean a lot of things, but for Garrett Lockhart it is always in relation to the body and the heart. Home is inside all of us; we carry it to different places during our lifetime, including the ones we inhabit. As housing and rental markets become increasingly hostile, finding the comfort of home, from within, is of rising importance.

Shine began with a series of photographic portraits without bodies—domestic interiors void of those who live there. In these images, Lockhart pursues a spirit, the heart, or the small details that make a house a home.

The exhibition's focus is the rented apartment, each one rich with lived history. Primer and mis-tinted paints are used throughout the show, expanding the ghostly portraits into place, while referencing house painting and the layers that build up over years of rotating tenants. Mis-tints further represent the colours of rejected rooms. Here, alternate realities are given another go.

Like the mis-tints, Lockhart's practice often favors reclaimed, scarce materials that have already had a life and a story. Embracing skills and methods that are not bound to complicated technologies or machines, Lockhart cognitively conceives of their work first, then manifests them by hand, with simple tools.

The number "69" in Sunlight (69) are outlines of reclaimed house numbers. Loaded with many connotations, one of them is the year 1969, the year of Woodstock and the American Moon landing. Many of the works in Shine contain a reference to the cosmos—sun(light), stars, the moon. In *The Poetics of Space* (1957), Gaston Bachelard speaks to the house as the first universe we encounter as children, the container for all we know. Lockhart engages the home as a cosmos of daily life.

Akin to the dust bunnies under the bed, Shine reflects the residue of time and matter found in beloved spaces. If we are made of stars, and dust is mostly dead skin, surely there's a universe in the corner, waiting to be swept away.

Garrett Lockhart (b. 1994) is a Toronto-based artist. Recent solo exhibitions include *The World Awake* at South Parade (London, UK), *Wrinkle* at Hunt Gallery (Toronto, CA), *Relay* at Pumice Raft (Toronto, CA) and *Wrought Bundle* at Afternoon Projects (Vancouver, CA). Recent duo/group exhibitions include *To pluck eternity along the lines of circadian rhythm* at Susan Hobbs (Toronto, CA), *a little, left over* at Weatherproof (Chicago, USA), *Doing Time* at South Parade (London, UK), *Dawn Draws, Dusk Drops* at Joys (Toronto, CA), *A word for underfoot; the sun* at Hunt Gallery (Toronto, CA), and *Poem Objects* at April April (Brooklyn, USA).