

# SOLDES

## *For Immediate Release*

DEAR VIEWER,

IF YOU VISIT THE EXHIBITION, YOU LIKELY FOUND THIS TEXT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE ON A TABLE NEAR THE GALLERY ENTRANCE. THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF WORK ON VIEW.

Andrew Cohen  
*Pillow Fight*

ON VIEW  
September 13–October 11, 2025

EXHIBITION OPENING  
September 13, 5–8pm

THE EXHIBITION'S TITLE SUGGESTS A SENSE OF SOFTCORE VIOLENCE, AND THE PARADOX OF SOMETHING HARD AND SOFT. FEATHERS, STREWN AROUND THE SPACE, REMAIN AFTER A "PILLOW FIGHT" AT SOLDES AND IDENTIFY WALL-MOUNTED FORMS AS THE CULPRITS. THE AIRBAGS, TITLED AS PILLOWS, ARE STUFFED WITH FEATHERS THAT SPEW FROM THE OBJECTS' PERFORATED BACKS THAT ONCE EXHAUSTED AIR. THERE IS A PARALLEL BETWEEN THE AIRBAG'S ORIGINAL FUNCTION AND THEIR NEW OPERATION AS PILLOWS; EACH STATE CRADLES THE HUMAN HEAD WITH DIFFERENT FORCES. THESE OBJECTS MIMIC A MOMENT OF DETONATION—A LIFE-SAVING EXPLOSION—THAT AIMS TO BLOCK TRAUMA. THE RESULTING FORMS BECOME SOFT, ALMOST FLORAL, AND DEADEN SOUND AS ONE PEERS BEHIND THEM, ACTING AS MUTING BARRICADES AND TRANSFORMING EACH WALL INTO A BLANK DASHBOARD.

THIS ACT OF SOFTENING EXTENDS TO EACH DRAWING. THEY ARE RENDERED QUIETLY IN GRAPHITE, BORROWING THE SCALE AND RATIO OF ENVELOPES LIKE THE ONE THIS DOCUMENT (A LETTER TO YOU) WAS LOCKED WITHIN. EACH DEPICTS A STYLE OF LOCK—A SAFETY DEVICE—TURNED UPON ITSELF AND RENDERED UNOPENABLE. AS DRAWINGS, THEIR FUNCTIONALITY IS FURTHER BARRED, FLATTENED AND MADE INTO UNLIKELY SPECIMENS. THEY ARE CATALOGICAL IN THEIR SURVEY OF LATCH MECHANISMS AND DRAWN WITH EACH ELEMENT OF HARDWARE UNIFORMLY RENDERED. BY DOUBLING THEIR COMPONENTS, THEY ARE DISARMED AND KEPT IN CLOSED STATES. A SENSE OF CONFINEMENT IS REPLACED BY A VISUAL PUZZLE AS ONE FOLLOWS THEIR LOGIC AND TRIES TO ANIMATE THEIR LIMITED RANGE OF MOVEMENT.

EACH TYPE OF WORK OPERATES AS A DOT OR A DASH, BORROWING THE LANGUAGE OF MORSE CODE. TOGETHER, THEY FORM A KIND OF SENTENCE, A VISUAL RHYTHM, OR A FRAGMENTED SYSTEM OF COMMUNICATION.

Yours,  
ANDREW COHEN

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