Annihilation Holiday
Theodore Darst & Kate Steciw

ANNIHILATION HOLIDAY

THEODORE DARST & KATE STECIW
October 26th, 2019, through January 19th, 2020

Liberal Arts Roxbury is pleased to present *Annihilation Holiday*, a two-person exhibition of works by Theodore Darst and Kate Steciw.

Kate Steciw and Theodore Darst position themselves as digital flâneurs of sorts, playfully strolling through screen environments, making associations freely between images, places, and digital artifacts. Their productions employ sets of divergent yet interrelated skills, each of which fall uniquely within the domain of labor (typically freelance), formerly performed by the artists in varying capacities.

Steciw's series of dye-sublimation prints on aluminum, occupying the front gallery at Liberal Arts, are digital collages composed of images she recruits from varying databases: stock photos, archives, social media accounts, image searches, etc. She considers the mark making that establishes the borders of her collaged layers to be a welcome mediation—the collaborative residue of machine-human interaction.

The rear gallery premieres Darst's diaristic, single-channel video titled *Cloud Requital & The-Grift*. Here Darst incorporates video footage shot on location with digitally-born, 3D animations accompanied by 2D overlays drawn frame by frame. The video is a futuristic meditation on the artist's recent trips between New York, his grandfather's western Massachusetts painting studio, and the Catskills. The seamless looping of the visuals, with audio composed by musician Kevin Carey, mirror the artist's peregrinations and provide the viewer with an experience that can be taken up or left behind at any moment.

Both Darst and Steciw approach digital media as an expansive landscape where attentions seamlessly cascade from one perspective to the next. Their treatments of this landscape explore its construction, prospecting its fissures, its multitude of layered images, the simultaneity of vision, and its "higher ground" in terms of visual language.

Theodore Darst (b. 1986, New York City) lives and works in New York City. *Cloud Requital & The-Grift* is his eighth collaboration with composer and producer Kevin Carey (b. 1992, Boston, MA). Darst's work has been the subject of solo exhibitions at Lubov, New York; Magenta Plaines, New York; and at Unpainted, Lab 2.0, Munich. His videos have been screened extensively at national and international venues, including TEAM Gallery, New York; The Drawing Center, New York; Mirko, Zurich; The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Museo de Bahia, Salvador, Brazil; The Institute of Contemporary Arts, London; and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago.

Kate Steciw (b. 1978, Bethlehem, PA) lives and works in Woodstock, NY. Her works have been the subject of numerous solo exhibitions, including Gamma Galeria, Guadalajara, Mexico; Galerie Christophe Gaillard, Paris; Neumeister Bar-Am, Berlin; Higher Pictures, New York; and Levy.Delval, Brussels. She has participated in group exhibitions at Hauser & Wirth, New York; International Center for Photography, New York; Bodega, Philadelphia; The Yves Klein Archive, Paris; Anat Ebgi, Los Angeles; Pioneer Works, Brooklyn, New York; and MAMO, Marseille, France.

The exhibition is curated by Nathaniel Hitchcock.

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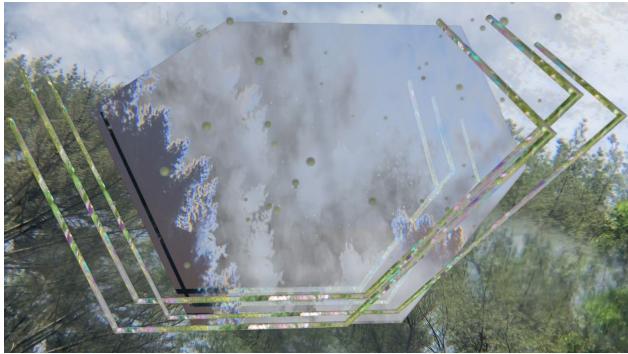


Theodore Darst

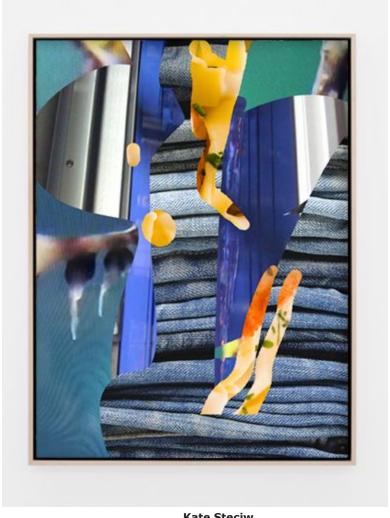
Cloud Requital & The-Grift (stills), 2019 HD Video 5 Minutes Soundtrack by Kevin Carey

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Theodore Darst
Cloud Requital & The-Grift (stills), 2019
HD Video 5 Minutes
Soundtrack by Kevin Carey



Kate Steciw 41119a, 2019 $24'' \times 30''$ Dye-sublimation print on aluminum in artist frame



Kate Steciw 52119a, 2019 $40^{\prime\prime}$ x 50 $^{\prime\prime}$ Dye-sublimation print on aluminum in artist frame



Kate Steciw 42219bb, 2019 $40'' \times 50''$ Dye-sublimation print on aluminum in artist frame



 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Kate Steciw} \\ 51419a, \ 2019 \\ 36'' \times 45'' \end{tabular}$ Dye-sublimation print on aluminum in artist frame

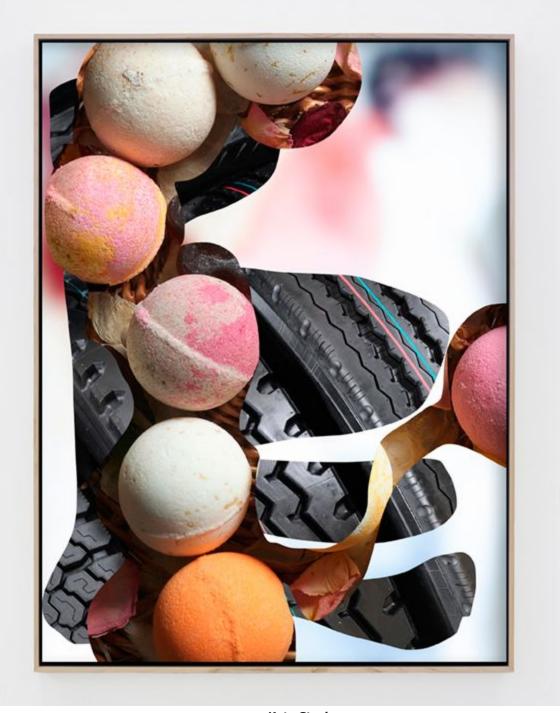
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Kate Steciw 52119a, 2019 44" x 60"

Dye-sublimation print on aluminum in artist frame

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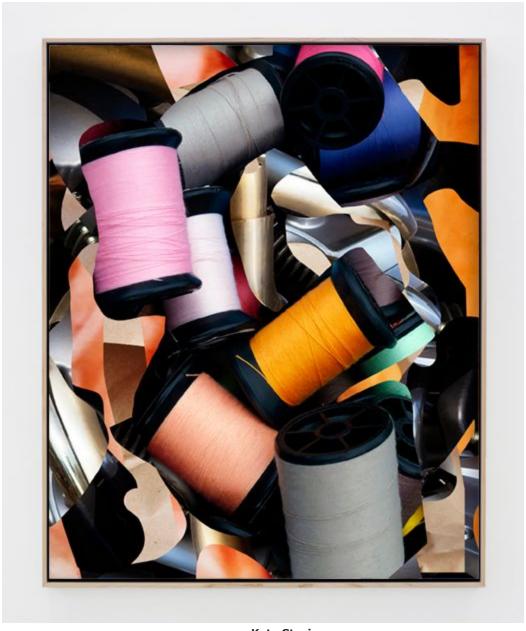


Kate Steciw 61119a, 2019 44" x 60"

Dye-sublimation print on aluminum in artist frame



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Kate Steciw 614119a, 2019 32" 40"

Dye-sublimation print on aluminum in artist frame



Kate Steciw 61419b, 2019 $32'' \times 40''$ Dye-sublimation print on aluminum in artist frame

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72019a, 2019 40" x 50" Dye-sublimation print on aluminum in artist frame



91119aa, 2019 $24^{\prime\prime}$ x 30 $^{\prime\prime}$ Dye-sublimation print on aluminum in artist frame