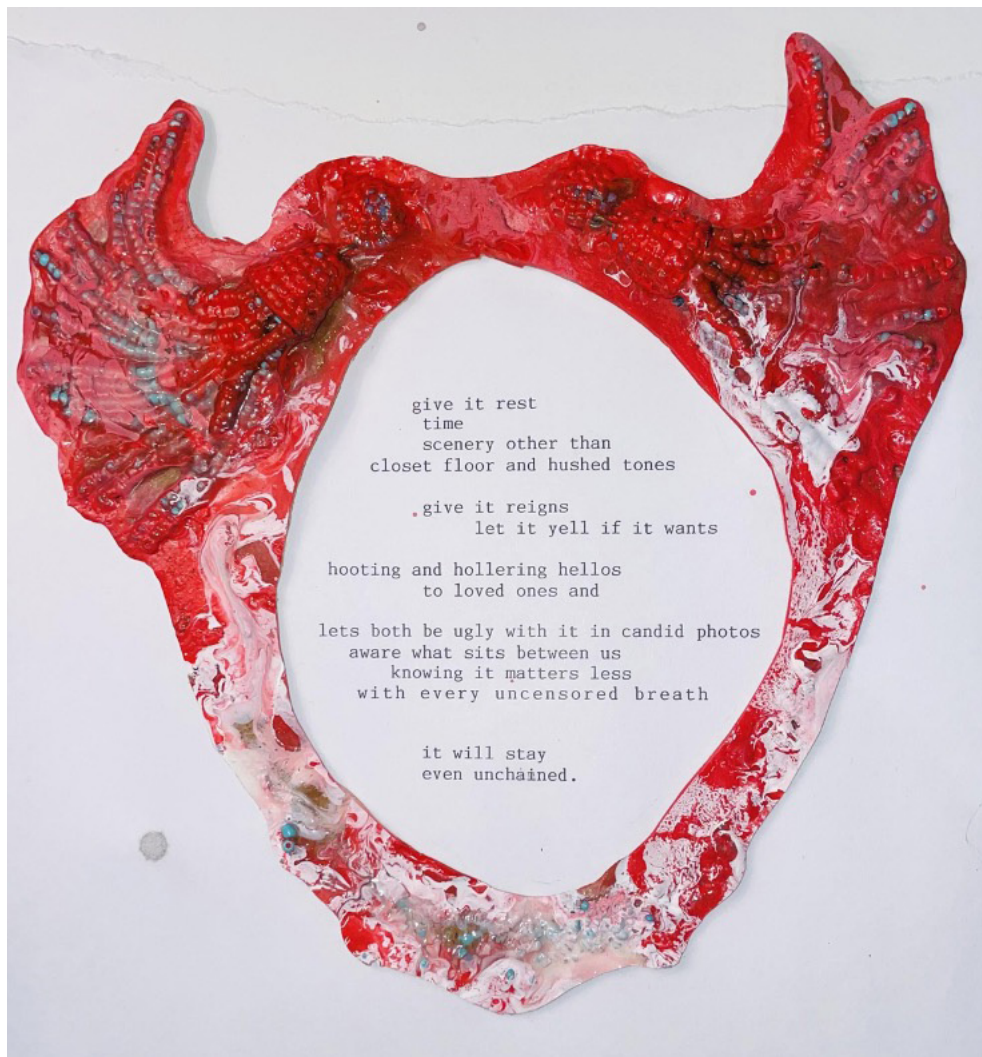


SEAH

CRACKS IN THE GLASS: 2022 UNDERGRADUATE FINE ARTS THESIS EXHIBITION



DEPS ARTIST PROFILE SERIES

MAY 12-JUNE 16, 2022

CRACKS IN THE GLASS: 2022 UNDERGRADUATE FINE ARTS THESIS EXHIBITION

cracks in the glass: 2022 Undergraduate Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition features the works of eleven BFA candidates in Columbia's Fine Arts program. The exhibition, which includes paintings, drawings, prints, books, video, performance and installation works, represents the culmination of four years worth of development of a cohesive body of work for each artist while earning their degrees.

Participating artists:

Lisette Chevalier
Micaela Felix
K.R. Fowler
Nadia Khan
Viy Lahowetz
Nicole Leung
Alexis Malone-Alvarado
Caroline Robinson
SEAH
CJ Shaw
Aleida Zapata

cracks in the glass: 2022 Undergraduate Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition is presented in conjunction with the Department of Exhibitions, Performance and Student Spaces (DEPS), the Art and Art History department, and Adam Brooks, Professor at Columbia College Chicago.

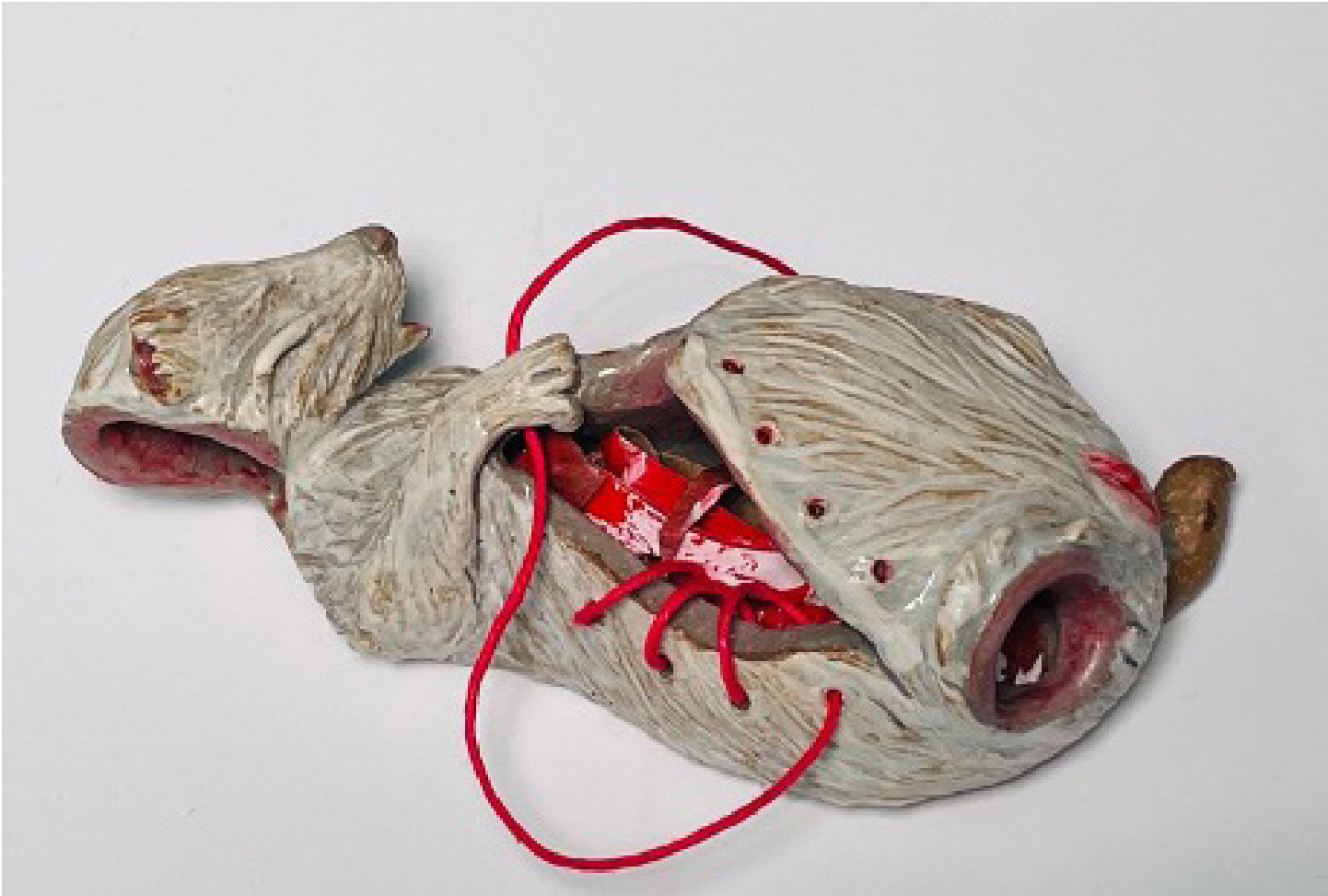
SEAH

SEAH's work is a culmination of thoughts on constructing identity throughout the absurd process of healing from past trauma, while simultaneously experiencing present chaos. To express this, they use contradicting ideas and materials by crafting delicate weapons, smashing and reshaping decorative objects, conjoining self with metaphor, and ultimately commenting on the compatibility of vulnerability with violence.

SEAH is an interdisciplinary artist whose art functions as a connection point between their individual experiences and that of the viewer's.

Website: [@seahlillian](#)

Instagram: seahlillian.wixsite.com/portfolio



Fragment, 2022, ceramic, harvested paint trimmings, thread



Tender (in progress), 2022, ceramic



Notes 2 Self VII (in progress), 2022, found and personal jewelry,
craft paper



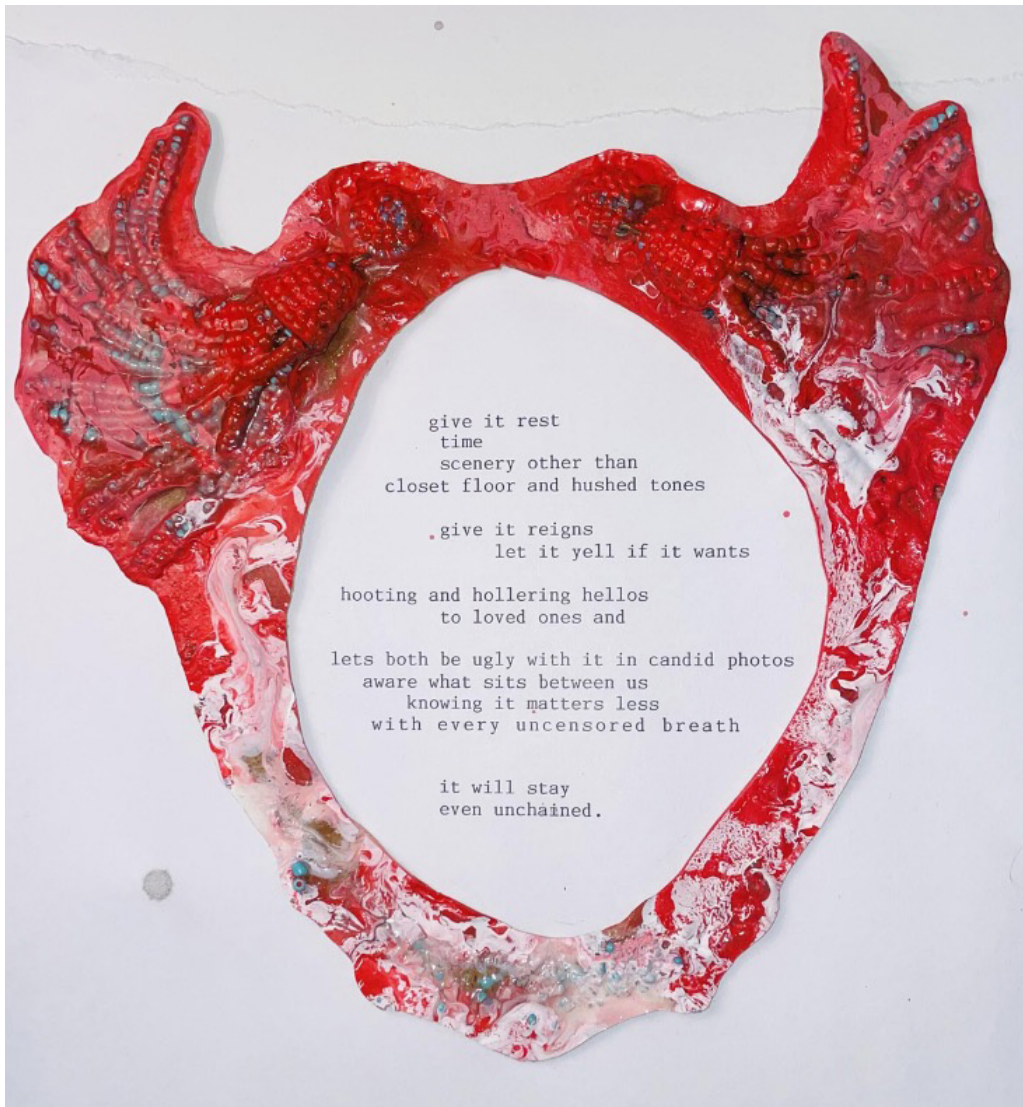
Meditation on The Protective Wrappings of Precious Objects, 2022

documentary image of performance in which the artist discarded fragile household objects behind them, and knelt in front of their bubble wrapping, pressing their face into the sheets to pop them



Meditation on The Protective Wrappings of Precious Objects, 2022

documentary image of performance in which the artist discarded fragile household objects behind them, and kneeled in front of their bubble wrapping, pressing their face into the sheets to pop them



Notes 2 Self II, 2022, found and personal jewelry,
acrylic painting medium, recycled liquids, paint, craft paper,
typewritten poetry

INTERVIEW WITH SEAH

Conducted by Kaylee Fowler

Kaylee Fowler: The materials you use in your practice are very particular and idiosyncratic; what has led you to make some of these material choices? How much experimentation is involved before you settle on a medium?

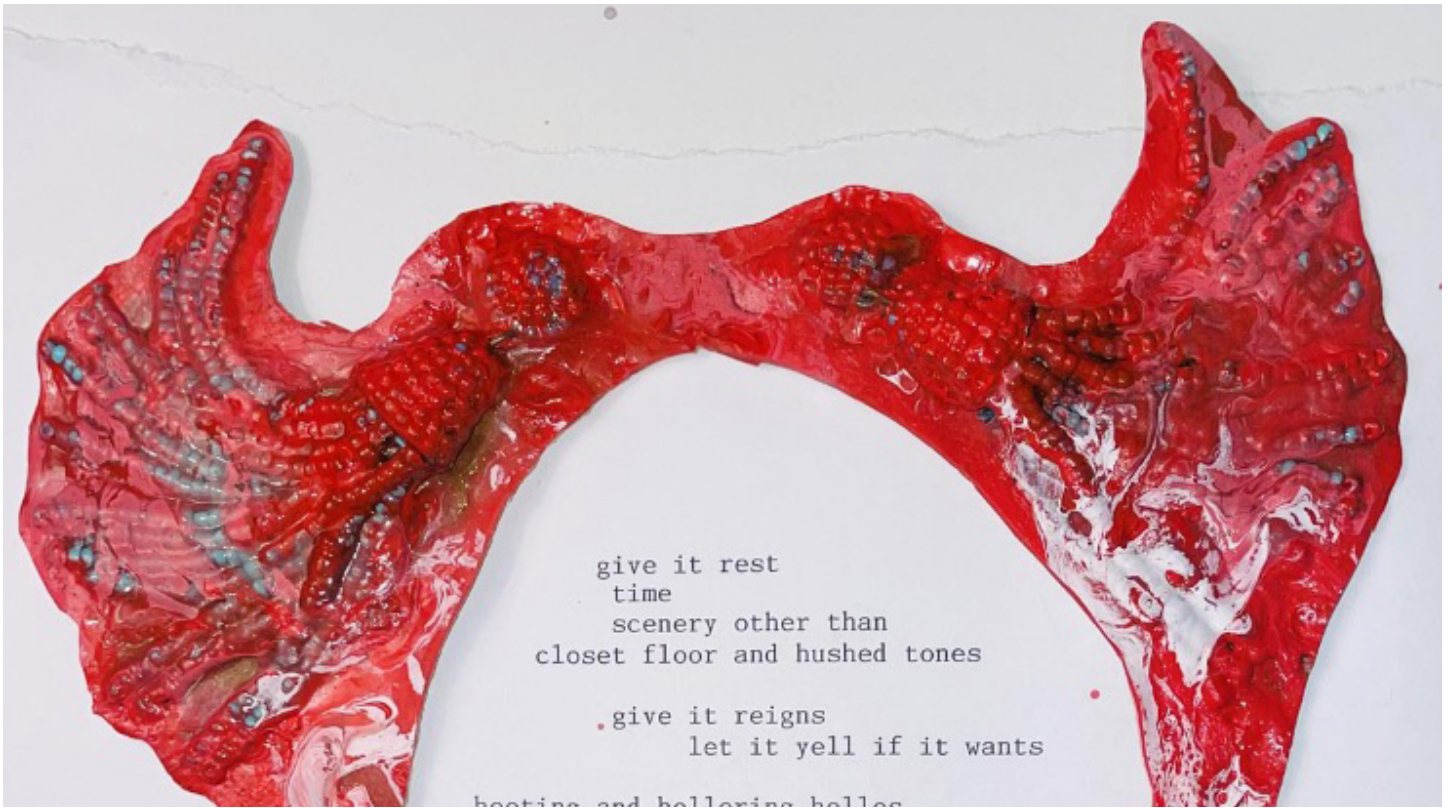
SEAH: The experimentation is definitely part of the medium. There is an imbedded resourcefulness in the works that I want to show through in the materials lists, as an ode to the queering of normalities in the LGBTQIA+ communities. Since so much of my work is about constructing a queered identity, I want the actual construction to really matter. I'm always working on finding alternatives and new routes that I'm not aware of yet, and everything I do is an ongoing learning process.

KF: You work in many disciplines, such as sculpture, performance, and poetry to name a few; what are some of the benefits and challenges of working in such varied media? Do you find the way you approach each medium to be similar, or dependent upon the process?

S: The process is fully dependent on the medium and the medium relies on the formal qualities of aesthetics in whatever I'm trying to make. When I imagine something cool or realize a connection exists between my imaginary piece and my goal, I just try to hone those connections wherever I find them. That said, a lot of my experimentation in mediums is a result of really enjoying walks through hardware and craft stores. I get very emotional about and drawn to certain textures and imagery.

KF: You've stated that contradictions represent chaos in your practice, commenting on the compatibility of violence and vulnerability; what started your interest in working with these themes?

S: The contradictions I find to be true of life generally, and feel that we are all coexisting in a time of monumental collective trauma and absurdity. So there's chaos in the pieces because that's what I'm seeing around me. There is also a lot of acute personal trauma being processed in this work, and making it is often an act of healing, or it exists in tandem with that personal process. But...I want to express the utmost care I've taken for myself through the work, and to create a practice that doesn't lean towards monetizing and romanticizing my trauma, but can speak on it in a removed and reflective way, which only comes after intensive self care. This naturally influences the visual outcome of the work, and I can see myself reflected in a strong rather than vulnerable way in my current pieces.



THE DEPS ARTIST PROFILE SERIES

The DEPS Artist Profile Series presented by Columbia College Chicago's Department of Exhibitions, Performance and Student Spaces (DEPS), is a virtual publication on select artists involved with the DEPS Galleries and the Columbia College Chicago community. Our goal with this series is to connect artist and viewer on a deeper level, and to highlight the amazing works and thoughts of our featured artists through interviews, artist biographies, and catalogs of work. Art has always been a way to connect with others, no matter where one may physically be. We hope by presenting the creativity and insights of the people involved in the DEPS Artist Profile Series that viewers may have one more way to stay in touch with, and support the arts community. The DEPS Artist Profile Series is managed by Fine Arts major and DEPS Exhibitions Assistants Kaylee Fowler and Sierra Delamarter. Graphic design is managed by DEPS Exhibitions Assistant Gray Beyer. This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.

Learn more at: colum.edu/deps

Contact information: Mark Porter, mporter@colum.edu / 312.369.6643

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