

What is This? Between Fracture and Wonder

**ABORN Gallery: 115 Empire Street,
Providence, RI**

DECEMBER 5-19th 2026 / JANUARY 9-23rd 2027

Opening reception Saturday, December 5th, 5-7pm



SHELBY HEAD

Shelby Head (pronouns fluid) is recognized for translating social narratives into a distinct, evolving material language.

Biography

Shelby Head (pronouns fluid) is recognized for exploring questions of power, identity, and history through a research-driven, multidisciplinary art practice. Their work combines material experimentation with a commitment to craft, pushing the boundaries of form while expanding the scope of political and cultural critique.

Head's work spans public art, gallery exhibitions, alternative spaces, and art fairs, earning them numerous awards, residencies, and fellowships, including the Tulsa Artist Fellowship Integrated Arts Award (2022–23), Tulsa Artist Fellowship (2020–23), THRIVE Powerhouse Grant in partnership with the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts (2022), and multiple OVAC Grants (2020–22). Additional awards and recognitions include the Connecticut Artist Fellowship Grant (2019), SLV Social Practice Residency with the National Endowment for the Arts (2019), Vermont Studio Center Residency (2019), Jentel Residency (2018), and Artist's Resource Trust Grant (2017).

Recent exhibitions include MAPSpace, Port Chester, NY (2025), Palace Storefront Window Gallery, Providence, RI (2024); Living Arts of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK (2023); Melton Gallery, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, OK (2022); Window Front Installation, Tulsa Artist Fellowship, Tulsa, OK (2021); El Pueblo History Museum, Pueblo, CO (2020); and Cloyde Snook Gallery, Alamosa, CO (2020).

Head currently lives and works in Providence, Rhode Island.

Exhibition Statement

I carry with me an inherited history of settler colonialism and religious narratives used to justify violence and dispossession. My ancestors' roles as militiamen, "Indian fighters," politicians, and plantation owners shaped my understanding of whiteness and contributed to my lifelong identity as an atheist. During my three-year tenure with the Tulsa Artist Fellowship, my relationship to faith, connection, and belonging underwent a profound shift through relationships that challenged my worldview.

While co-curating *Beyond the Whitewash* in Tulsa, Oklahoma (2022–23), I worked with a multigenerational, racially diverse group of artists and art workers. What began as a professional collaboration became a community grounded in mutual support, accountability, and trust. Through these relationships, I was welcomed into Native and Black cultural and spiritual spaces that reshaped my understanding of faith, history, and belonging. There, I witnessed resilience, collective care, and faith woven into everyday life, opening new questions about the sacred.

In 2023, I moved to Providence, Rhode Island, and began work on a new series titled *What Is This? Between Fracture and Wonder*, an ongoing body of work informed by my experiences in Oklahoma, inherited histories, and today's political landscape.

The work explores questions of power, belonging, and how we navigate the space between disruption and connection. Rather than resolving tensions between the material and the spiritual, or the contradictions inherent in human experience, the collection holds space for their coexistence. The work invites viewers to consider how we might remain present amid uncertainty, holding grief and curiosity together in a world marked by disruption.

Soundscape

Brian Stroehlein, composer and sound artist, created the soundscape *Praying for Rain* to accompany the artworks in this exhibition. Drawing inspiration from the themes, materials, and emotional landscapes of the work, Brian's ambient compositions extend the exhibition's exploration of memory, connection, and the space between fracture and wonder.

With more than 25 years of experience in music composition, recording, and sound exploration, Brian approaches sound as an evolving process of discovery. Through collecting, manipulating, and layering sounds, he allows textures and compositions to emerge organically, remaining open to unexpected connections and moments of completion.

What is This? Between Fracture and Wonder

Acquisition & Pricing

This installation is offered as a complete work in order to preserve its conceptual and material integrity. Individual components are not available for separate purchase during the exhibition.

For acquisition inquiries and pricing details, please contact the Gallery Director, Neal Walsh, at neal.walsh@as220.org or 401-831-9327 x114

About the Work

This evolving body of work traces fragile boundaries between containment and collapse, sacredness and surveillance, as each construct enters into conversation with the others. Together, they reveal the slow erosion of civic trust and the residue it leaves behind, while suggesting that something essential endures beyond systems of power and fracture. This exhibition is part of a five-year project culminating on January 20, 2029, centered on a single question: *What remains when the foundations of identity, faith, and nationhood are broken open?*

I refer to this body of combined works as constructs. The term carries layered meanings. On one level, it relates to physical construction, the acts of building, arranging, and layering that shape each piece, where disparate materials are brought together to form new and often unexpected relationships. On another level, the term gestures toward the conceptual: the social constructs, those invented categories and systems that define how we perceive reality. These artworks move between the tangible and intangible, exploring the relationship between external forms and internal states. Through this convergence, the work seeks to draw an undefinable inner source into outer expression, finding coherence not through resolution but by holding together fragments, an invitation toward wholeness amid fracture.



Before Naming

2026

Variable Dimensions

Inv #: 1936

DESCRIPTION:

The two gallery windows are draped with multiple layers of translucent paper that hover between revelation and concealment. Light passes through them, but clarity remains elusive.

Shelby Head
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Caste

2026

Construct

96 x 40 x 48 in

Inv #: 1937

DESCRIPTION:

While reading *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson, the image of stacked pallets emerged as a metaphor for the social order constructed in the United States. Built in layers, wealthy, white, heterosexual men have historically occupied its highest positions, while others bear the weight below. The light above simply makes the structure visible, inviting recognition as a path toward understanding and, in turn, loosening the bonds of white supremacy.



Present Moment

2026

Construct

37 x 41 x 46 in

Inv #: 1938

DESCRIPTION:

The chair bears witness to time measured not by object, but by presence. Resting on a platform, it marks the space where attention, repetition, and stillness transform perception.



Work Table: On the Ground

2026

Construct

30 x 31 x 20 in

Inv #: 1953

DESCRIPTION:

This work begins with a simple surface for labor and reflection. Over time, it becomes a record of attention, built through years of reading, notes, and ideas. The title refers to both its physical placement and the possibility of support by something greater.



What Remains

2026

Construct

84 x 27 x 27 in

Inv #: 1952

DESCRIPTION:

The installation "What Remains" emerges from a period of political and social unraveling in the United States. It holds space for remaining receptive to transcendence while staying grounded in a fractured present.



Papered Over

2023

Business suit, mannequin, paper, wood, flag, 2023, 90 x

75 x 60 in

Inv #: 2033

DESCRIPTION:

A headless mannequin dressed in corporate attire is wrapped in hundreds of paper strips. One hand holds a draped U.S. flag; the other holds cemetery deeds to the artist's ancestors buried in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery. Referencing Washington Irving's *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, the figure becomes both corporate official and ghost, exposing the enduring ties between government, commerce, genocide, enslavement, and land theft that continue to haunt our nation.

About UNPRECEDENTED

UNPRECEDENTED is a salon-style installation that assembles more than 70 individual frames reflecting the relentless pace, accumulation, and fragmentation of the Trump-era news cycle. Each frame responds to an executive order, event, or public announcement, creating an evolving visual record of a presidency marked by continual disruption and political volatility. The works presented here are selections from the larger installation, which will continue to expand through January 20, 2029, as new frames are created in response to unfolding events.



Dire Strait

2026

Construct

10.5 x 12.5 in

Inv #: 1940

DESCRIPTION:

A single red line transforms a familiar cartographic image into a meditation on power, conflict, and the fragile systems that bind distant lives together.



Cashed In

2026

Construct

13.25 x 9.5 x 4 in

Inv #: 1941

DESCRIPTION:

A toy arcade claw, built to reward chance and temptation, grips a chaotic pile of \$100 bills bearing Donald Trump's portrait. The familiar game becomes a metaphor for public office transformed into private gain.



Access Denied

2026

Construct

8.5 x 10.25 in

Inv #: 1942

DESCRIPTION:

Framed by a predatory leopard pattern, the Department of Justice seal becomes a symbol of institutional power, undermining the rights it was created to protect.



Fatal Reflection

2025

12.75 x 5.5 x 1.75 in

Inv #: 1943

DESCRIPTION:

The work suggests that even symbolic national landscapes can become sites where poor stewardship turns preventable calamity into a recurring public spectacle.



Grab Them by the Ballot

2026

Construct

19 x 12.75 x 7 in

Inv #: 1944

DESCRIPTION:

Invoking the FBI's seizure of election-related ballots and documents in Georgia, and referencing a 2005 Access Hollywood recording, "Grab Them by the Ballot" transforms a ballot into a contested object at the center of the struggle over democratic legitimacy.



Forever Exempt

2025

Construct

8 x 12 in

Inv #: 1945

DESCRIPTION:

"FOREVER EXEMPT" asks whether the rule of law applies equally, or whether power has placed certain individuals beyond accountability.



By Order of the Court

2026

Construct

10.25 x 12.25 in

Inv #: 1946

DESCRIPTION:

By layering protest posters that cite the 2026 Supreme Court rulings, the work asks who bears the consequences when constitutional interpretation concentrates power and narrows individual protections.



Conversion, Reconsidered

2025

Construct 16

x 7 x 2 in

Inv #: 1984

DESCRIPTION:

The figure's restraint models the consequences of the decision of a Supreme Court case that places a therapist's free speech claim above state laws intended to protect minors from the documented abuse of conversion therapy.



In the Crosshairs

2026

Construct

14.25 x 14.25 x 1 in

Inv #: 1947

DESCRIPTION:

The work stages a confrontation between faith, power, and violence when religious language itself becomes a weapon for waging war, and those who challenge that logic become its targets.



Whitewash. Everything.

2026

Construct

15 x 16 x 2.5 in

Inv #: 1948

DESCRIPTION:

What is lost when complexity, conflict, and accountability are covered over in pursuit of a cleaner, more controllable narrative?



The Cost of Not Knowing

2026

Construct

39.5 x 9.3 x 5.5 in

Inv #: 1949

DESCRIPTION:

Caught between function and ruin, the sculpture reflects on the 2026 proposed dismantling of the Ocean Observatories Initiative, which threatens the tools designed to measure climate change and predict extreme weather.



Domestic Security

2026

Construct

20.5 x 16 x 4 in

Inv #: 1950

DESCRIPTION:

This commentary on "Alligator Alcatraz" explores how the cultural production of confinement is imagined, staged, and normalized within the United States, and how these narratives conceal the human brutality of systems of incarceration.



The 928 Million Dollar Question

2026

Construct

15.5 x 8 x 5.5 in

Inv #: 1951

DESCRIPTION:

The piece examines how climate ambition can be redirected into fossil fuel expansion as 928 million dollars in taxpayer-funded buyouts compensate offshore wind developers for abandoned projects, exposing the tension between environmental policy and economic power.



Calculated Violence

2026

Construct

24.5 x 19 x 4 in

Inv #: 1962

DESCRIPTION:

Confronting the 2026 U.S./Israeli bombing campaign in Iran, destruction radiates outward, implicating the systems of power that shape violence and the consequences on human lives in its wake.



Take Your Pick

15.75 x 13.75 in

Inv #: 1960

DESCRIPTION:

Take Your Pick stages a menu of justifications for war with Iran, flattening war into a series of interchangeable narratives that obscure human cost.



DEPART NOW

2026

Construct

17 x 17 in

Inv #: 1961

DESCRIPTION:

Situated at the outset of the 2026 Iran war, the work reveals abandonment as policy, while containment and bureaucratic distance become instruments of violence.



By Design

2025

Construct

11 x 14 x 1.5 in

Inv #: 1963

DESCRIPTION:

"WAR KILLS" is cut cleanly from a decorative field, its violence masked by ornamental calm. The words insist that killing is not accidental or peripheral to war, but central to it, the predictable and defining outcome.



Inventory of Loss

2026

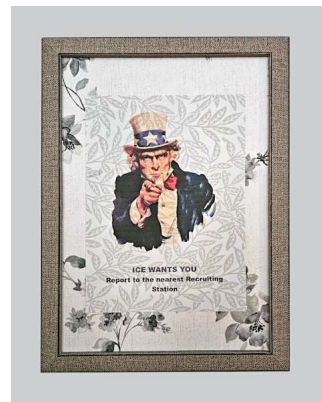
Construct

17 x 14 x 2.5 in

Inv #: 1964

DESCRIPTION:

Described as a targeting error that killed scores of children during the opening phase of the Iran war, a child's backpack, torn open and saturated in blood, becomes a brutal stand-in for bodies erased.



America's New Draft

2025

Construct

15.5 x 11.5 in

Inv #: 1982

DESCRIPTION:

"America's New Draft" is an indictment of the normalization of militarized domestic policy through a familiar patriotic iconography.



Operation Catch of the Day

2025

Construct

16.5 x 16.5 x 2 in

Inv #: 1979

DESCRIPTION:

A small puncture slightly off-center breaks the surface, its edges outlined in red. Below, an orange whistle rests like an afterimage of warning, evoking the violence rendered procedural through extreme ICE tactics in 2025/2026.



The Fabric of Power

2025

Construct

15.5 x 27 x 1.5 in

Inv #: 1977

DESCRIPTION:

Stitched across an antique world map, America First reads less as policy than rupture. Its cutout letters are filled with crimson cloth; different colored push pins trace the fallout of U.S. tariffs, cuts to foreign aid, military threats, mass travel bans, and the removal of career diplomats across multiple countries.



Sanctioned Loss

2025

Construct

10.5 x 23 x 1.5 in

Inv #: 1978

DESCRIPTION:

A floral, domestic backdrop and gilt frame contrast with the violence embedded in the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act," where a cheerful title obscures policies that privilege wealth while diminishing access to healthcare, food, education, and green energy.



Theater of Hegemonic Masculinity

2026

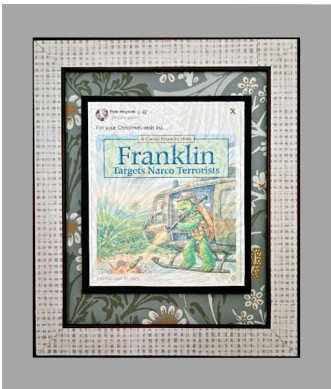
Construct

13 x 12 x 1 in

Inv #: 1955

DESCRIPTION:

Decoratively framed, the work points to hegemonic masculinity as spectacle: strength exaggerated, violence aestheticized, and authority reduced to a consumable image of control.



Holiday Wish List, 2025

2025

Construct

12 x 10 in

Inv #: 1980

DESCRIPTION:

The artwork recasts Pete Hegseth's post of a meme of the beloved children's character, Franklin the Turtle, in military gear firing a rocket-propelled grenade from a helicopter at a boat, underscoring the surreal theater of contemporary political communication



Evidence Pending

2025

Construct

6 x 4.5 x 1 in

Inv #: 1985

DESCRIPTION:

A children's *Battleship* game becomes a staging ground for the ambiguity surrounding U.S. strikes on alleged narco-trafficking vessels, where disputed accounts, limited public evidence, questions of oversight, and the obscuring of lives lost question the official narrative.



Trump's Hole

2025

Construct

17 x 14.5 x 2.5 in

Inv #: 1981

DESCRIPTION:

Trump's Hole uses the language of architecture to expose what lies beneath the spectacle of expansion: fractured wooden slats rupture a sanitized rendering of the proposed White House Ballroom, turning the design into an image of fracture, instability, and institutional unraveling.



Executive Order 14158: Establishing and Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency"

2025

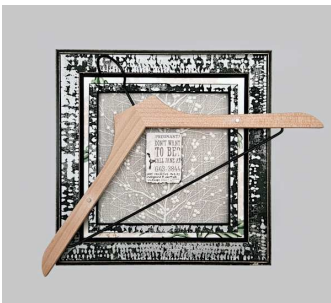
Construct

17.5 x 17.5 x 1.5 in

Inv #: 2003

DESCRIPTION:

Spiraling downward, the figures embody the human cost of Trump's "Department of Government Efficiency" (DOGE). The work reveals institutions unraveling as oversight is dismantled and ideology replaces governance.



Call Jane

2025

Construct

12.5 x 15.5 x 3.25 in

Inv #: 1983

DESCRIPTION:

By invoking the Jane Collective's clandestine abortion care network of 1969–73, the work recalls the history of the underground support shaped in response to criminalized abortion and considers the consequences of the ongoing dismantling of abortion rights.



Medal of Hate

2025

Construct

10 x 10 in

Inv #: 1986

DESCRIPTION:

This framed medal turns the language of honor into a critique of political spectacle. The posthumous Presidential Medal of Freedom awarded to Charlie Kirk becomes a site of tension between public recognition and the hateful rhetoric that shaped his political legacy.



False Entry Point

2024

Construct

13.5 x 11 x 1 in

Inv #: 2020

DESCRIPTION:

"Pregnancy Services", bound in yellow and black caution tape, exposes nationwide anti-abortion crisis pregnancy centers (CPCs), also known as fake clinics or limited-service centers, as institutions that mimic care while withholding it.



Who Gets to Exist

2025

Construct

14 x 15.5 x 3 in

Inv #: 1987

DESCRIPTION:

Framed as an exposed specimen, the text concerning banned books underscores how political forces attempt not only to restrict education but to determine which narratives are allowed to flourish and which are pushed into silence.



Fight Like Hell not to Take It

2025

Construct

6 x 5.5 x 3.5 in

Inv #: 1988

DESCRIPTION:

Tylenol becomes the symbol in a larger cultural battle, caught in a vise of rhetoric, uncertainty, and manufactured alarm.



Self-Payment Plan

2025

Construct

6 x 4.5 x 0.75 in

Inv #: 1989

DESCRIPTION:

The Great Seal's all-seeing pyramid becomes an emblem of authority; its promise of stewardship collides with a president seeking \$230 million in taxpayer funds from a Justice Department he controls related to alleged harms stemming from prior federal investigations into him.



Shutdown, Still Life

2025

Construct

21.5 x 15.5 x 3 in

Inv #: 1991

DESCRIPTION:

A small garbage can outside the window is filled with scraps labeled with programs left unfunded during the 2025–26 government shutdowns, revealing the quiet violence of political decisions that disrupt essential services and lives.



Department of War

2025

Construct

25 x 17 x 21 in

Inv #: 1990

DESCRIPTION:

This construct recalls the September 30, 2025, meeting at Quantico, where Trump and Hegseth reframed the U.S. military through the language of power, command, grooming, obedience, and aggression recast as virtue.



Blueprint for Erasure

2025

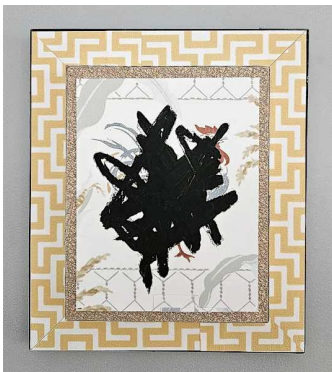
Construct

13 x 13 x 1.5 in

Inv #: 1992

DESCRIPTION:

The work layers translucent paper with text from Project 2025, a conservative policy blueprint for reshaping federal governance. More than half of its recommendations are moving toward implementation under the Trump administration, revealing consequences in climate policy, regulatory protections, executive power, and public institutions.



Big Beautiful Billionaire Bromance Breakup: Trump/Musk

2025

Construct

10.5 x 9 x 2 in

Inv #: 2021

DESCRIPTION:

The black visual noise alludes to the public spectacle surrounding the June 2025 exchanges between Donald Trump and Elon Musk, as insults, impeachment calls, and accusations spread across social media.



Semper Fidelis

2025

Construct

11.5 x 30.5 x 1 in

Inv #: 2000

DESCRIPTION:

The title Semper Fidelis, "Always Faithful," the motto of the U.S. Marine Corps, carries an ironic edge, suggesting loyalty to authority and force over democratic life.



Scorpion State

2025

Construct

10 x 10 x 4 in

Inv #: 1993

DESCRIPTION:

The scorpion becomes a symbol of political retribution, its threat embodied through investigations, firings, funding cuts, legal pressure, threats against opponents, institutional dismantling, and the use of state power against dissenting cities during the Trump era.



"Hostile Environments"

2025

Construct

34 x 12 x 1.5 in

Inv #: 2011

DESCRIPTION:

The work reflects on the fragility of truth, memory, and higher education under authoritarian pressure.



Cause of Death: Red Line

2026

Construct

9 x 14 in

Inv #: 1956

DESCRIPTION:

A warning echoes through this piece, recalling the cry from *Lost in Space*: "Danger, Will Robinson, danger," as the DoD threatens Anthropic AI over its ethical limits around surveillance, autonomy, and lethal force.



Trust Us, It's Under Control

2026

Construct

7 x 5 x 0.75 in

Inv #: 1958

DESCRIPTION:

Here, experimental power exceeds coordination, and disruption radiates outward from a single unseen act.



Happy Birthday

2025

Construct

21.5 x 21.5 x 4.75 in

Inv #: 1996

DESCRIPTION:

The work references a drawing of a woman's body and text attributed to Trump from a 2003 "birthday book" for Epstein, exposing the tension between public denial and the violent network of sex trafficking, privilege, and abuse.



Shadow Docket

2025

Construct

Variable Dimensions

Inv #: 1999

DESCRIPTION:

Shadow Docket confronts the hidden power of the Supreme Court. The term refers to rulings issued outside the Court's standard process, unsigned, unexplained, yet with sweeping impact. Since January 20, 2025, at least 28 shadow decisions have largely favored Trump's executive actions, advancing presidential authority and challenging assumptions about judicial independence.



Baby Bonus: it's white supremacy

2025

Construct

14 x 12 x 1.5 in

Inv #: 1998

DESCRIPTION:

Behind the domestic scene depicts a harder truth: "pro-baby" conservative politics are entangled with histories of exclusion and the regulation of bodies and futures along lines of race, class, gender, and sexuality.



Three Branches

2025

Construct

12 x 10 x 5.5 in

Inv #: 1997

DESCRIPTION:

The work responds to warnings of rising authoritarianism in the United States by questioning whether institutional checks still operate or whether the appearance of balance has become a façade for concentrated power.



Your Fired

2025

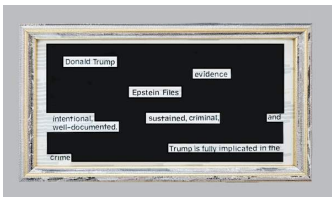
Construct

13.5 x 13.5 x 3 in

Inv #: 2002

DESCRIPTION:

The phrase “YOU’RE FIRED,” popularized by the television series *The Apprentice*, becomes emblematic of a governing style built on spectacle, removal, and disruption, extending from television performance into the Trump administration’s mass firings and institutional restructuring.



Trump, Redacted

2026

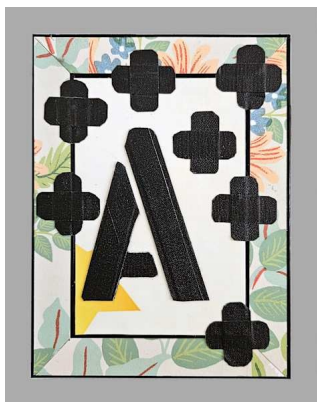
Construct

7 x 13 in

Inv #: 1957

DESCRIPTION:

Where meaning is suspended between revelation and erasure.



The Cost of A+

2025

Construct

12 x 12 in

Inv #: 2010

DESCRIPTION:

Trump's self-awarded A+ A+ A+ is at odds with concerns over rising living costs, housing, healthcare, education, immigration, war, and economic uncertainty, exposing how political self-congratulation denies the reality of instability.



Executive Order 14151: Ending Radical And Wasteful Government DEI Programs And Preferencing

2025

Construct

4.5 x 4.5 x 1 in

Inv #: 2004

DESCRIPTION:

A curled black wallpaper partially obscures a red-and-white Target logo, linking the visual language of erasure to Target's rollback of DEI commitments, which prompted a 40-day boycott led by Black faith leaders.



Operational Mood Swing

2026

Construct

9 x 9 x 2 in

Inv #: 1959

DESCRIPTION:

Donald Trump's statement that the Iran war ends "when I feel it in my bones" reflects a decision-making style rooted in emotional impulse. His well-documented aversion to lengthy briefings and reading reports makes Trump's feeling the mechanism for decisions of profound consequences.



Day of Love

2026

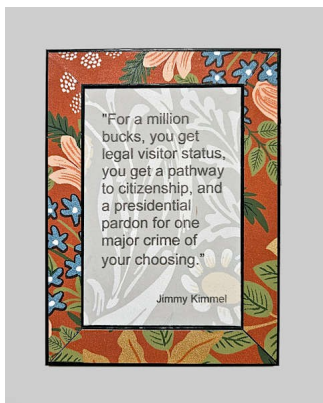
Construct

16.5 x 13 in

Inv #: 1939

DESCRIPTION:

By framing the events of January 6, 2021, through a revised official narrative, the work invites viewers to consider how language, repetition, and state authority can redefine violence, accountability, and democracy itself.



Pardon Included

2025

Construct

5 x 4.5 in

Inv #: 1976

DESCRIPTION:

A Jimmy Kimmel punchline reads less as a joke than a summary of policy set within a decorative, domestic border.



Executive Order 14210: Implementing The President's "Department of Government Efficiency" Workforce Optimization

2025

Construct

14 x 11 x 1.5 in

Inv #: 2008

DESCRIPTION:

The wallpaper, metal, paper weather balloon, and a plastic army figure investigate the destabilization of public infrastructure on climate science and national data systems.



Executive Order 14149: Restoring Freedom of Speech and Ending Federal Censorship

2025

Construct

11 x 11 x 2.5 in

Inv #: 2006

DESCRIPTION:

The work critiques censorship and the contradictions of state power, where "free speech" is upheld while selectively restricted.



Hegemonic Masculinity

2025

Construct

20 x 14 x 1 in

Inv #: 2009

DESCRIPTION:

Institutionalized misogyny and gendered violence within Donald Trump's administration are examined through the officials and systems that enable, protect, and normalize abuse. Structured as a grid of nine framed panels, the installation evokes bureaucratic systems that organize, contain, and obscure harm.



Executive Order 14168: Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government

2025

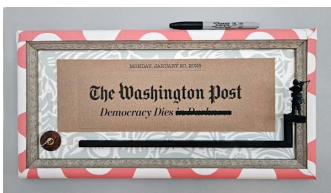
Construct

25 x 10.5 x 3 in

Inv #: 2007

DESCRIPTION:

Toy soldiers move across the surface, evoking the militarized enforcement of gender norms and the extension of state authority into the identities, bodies, and civil rights of transgender people.



Democracy Dies

2025

Construct

18 x 9 x 1 in

Inv #: 2001

DESCRIPTION:

A Sharpie above the frame evokes executive overreach and unilateral authority. The work draws on reports of Amazon's \$1 million donation to Trump, a \$40 million deal involving Melania Trump, and internal directives that sparked censorship debates and an editorial resignation.



Second-term Pardons

2025

Construct

11 x 11 x 2.5 in

Inv #: 2024

DESCRIPTION:

More than any previous president, Donald Trump has used pardon power to reward loyalists, signal protection to allies, and reduce legal pressure on associates to testify against him.



The End

2025

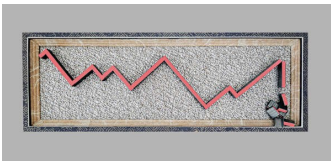
Construct

16 x 16 x 3 in

Inv #: 2015

DESCRIPTION:

"The End " is a stark reflection of the fragility of environmental policy in the face of political obstruction, as seen in the January 20, 2025, executive order that revoked climate protections and prioritized fossil fuels.



Liberation Day

2025

Construct

6.25 x 18 x 0.75 in

Inv #: 2017

DESCRIPTION:

Responding to Trump's April 2025 "Liberation Day" tariffs, the red zigzag of staples becomes a material metaphor for power, retribution, and uncertainty. Used to bind, fasten, and repair, the staples reveal the tension between holding systems together and exposing the fractures created by policies enacted in the name of fairness and control.



Alien Enemies Act

2025

Construct

22 x 17 x 2.5 in

Inv #: 2012

DESCRIPTION:

The work centers on the deportation flights carried out under the 1798 Alien Enemies Act, following Donald Trump's deployment of the statute in 2025 against individuals alleged to belong to a Venezuelan gang. The aircraft becomes a vehicle through which questions of due process, executive power, and national identity converge.



Social Security Numbers Unleashed

2025

Construct

13.5 x 7.75 x 1.5 in

Inv #: 2016

DESCRIPTION:

This artwork responds to a 6–3 Supreme Court decision granting Elon Musk's DOGE team access to Social Security records, transforming personal data into a site where privacy, executive power, and the erosion of long-standing protections.



Masters of War

2025

Construct

21 x 17 x 2.5 in

Inv #: 2014

DESCRIPTION:

Responding to the deaths of more than 64,000 Palestinians and the estimated hundreds of thousands of casualties in the war in Ukraine, *Masters of War* mourns the human cost of armed conflict. Invoking the archetype of the "masters of war," the title reflects on Donald Trump, Benjamin Netanyahu, and Vladimir Putin as leaders whose decisions shape the trajectories of war, raising profound questions about judgment, motive, and accountability.



WHERE * THE * LAW * ENDS * TYRANNY * BEGINS

2025

Construct

10 x 12 x 2.5 in

Inv #: 2005

DESCRIPTION:

Layers of historical irony and contemporary authoritarianism sit within a deceptively decorative frame. At the center, John Locke's line, "Where the Law ends, Tyranny Begins," reads less as a warning than a condition.



Executive Order 14290: Ending Taxpayer Subsidization of Biased Media

2025

Construct

10 x 10 x 3 in

Inv #: 2013

DESCRIPTION:

The artwork addresses the censorship and defunding of public broadcasting under the Trump administration. Elmo and baby David, entangled in wire, become an emblem of public institutions caught in the tightening constraints of political control, where children's education, cultural access, and free expression are increasingly at risk.



Framing the Loss of Care

2025

Construct

10.5 x 9 x 1.25 in

Inv #: 2019

DESCRIPTION:

Inside the frame, text traces legislation linked to Donald Trump that defunds Planned Parenthood, connecting policy decisions to the closure of 17 health centers across multiple states.



Executive Order 14169: Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid

2025

Construct

25 x 8 x 1.25 in

Inv #: 2018

DESCRIPTION:

The frame foregrounds the January 20, 2025, Executive Order: Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid, which froze \$12B in global health funding under "realignment." The work brings distant consequences into view, revealing the human cost of political decisions.



Executive Order 14161: Protecting the United States from Foreign Terrorists and Other National Security and Public Safety Threats

2025

Construct

4.5 x 4.5 x 1 in

Inv #: 2023

DESCRIPTION:

The flowers, once vibrant, are stilled and muted, standing in for communities subjected to surveillance, restriction, and exclusion. Referencing Executive Order 14161, the work explores how systems of power use the language of security to redefine who belongs, transforming containment into an appearance of safety and erasure into a form of order.



Signal Gate

2025

Construct

8 x 6 x 4 in

Inv #: 2025

DESCRIPTION:

The use of the Signal messaging app to discuss a military strike on Yemen, including the accidental inclusion of a journalist, reveals breakdowns in military communication systems and raises questions about leadership, accountability, and the competence required to manage the responsibilities of national defense.