

PATRICIA L. BOYD
Where You Lie

April 2 – May 7, 2023

Dissected parts of a bed's wooden base, legs and slats have been hacked-up and repurposed as raw materials for a series of supports and LED-lit display vitrines. Slabs of hypoallergenic latex and their cotton casings sit on the floor, redistributed throughout the gallery, spatially reorganized now into simple sculptural forms.

Exploding the bed from her former marriage in the exhibition space, Boyd transforms what was once a discreet, functional, domestic object into a proliferation of abstract structures or stations. Boyd shipped the bed from New York to London by sea when she moved cities, and then back again by air for this exhibition. The piece of furniture was worked on in the gallery, cut into several pieces using saws, scissors and knives, the artist performing a kind of surgical revenge upon it.

Boyd releases tension from materials by diverting them from their normal uses and putting them back into motion, starting with the transatlantic transport and ending as a sort of post-Minimalist beige-on-beige composition in the gallery. The vitrines reassemble dismembered bed parts with added glass shelving and backlit sheets of white acrylic beneath, suggesting photographic lightboxes. Inside the vitrines and lying on surfaces, photographs document the bed in the gallery and its unmaking and remaking on site. Hard sawn cuts expose interior slats. Other images include an abstracted detail of the painting *Ophelia* by John Everett Millais, the artist's nightdress and sleep mask laid out on the bed in Brooklyn, her wedding ring placed on a kitchen cutting board alongside sliced pancetta, and skyscraper views of the city. It's a question of montage, re-spacing, and the gaps and cuts that might begin to re-articulate life-stuff into fresh arrangements. The artist's story is chopped up along with the other materials, becoming raw material itself. Psychologically charged, symbolically loaded autobiographical content is put on display, cut, illuminated, examined, thrown back into the world.

Patricia L. Boyd lives and works in London. She has had solo exhibitions at Secession, Vienna (2023); Kunstverein München (2021); Front Desk Apparatus, New York (2020); Christian Andersen, Copenhagen (2019); Cell Project Space (with Rosa Aiello), London (2019); 80WSE, New York (2017); and Modern Art Oxford (2014), among other venues. Recent institutional group exhibitions include Amant, New York; Kunstverein Braunschweig; Stadtgalerie Bern; Bonner Kunstverein; CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco; Steirischer Herbst, Graz; and the 13th Lyon Biennale. In 2016, Boyd was the recipient of a moving-image commission from the Curtis R. Priem Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center.

Break
Your Poem
Like you would cut a grapefruit
Make
It go to sleep for you
And each line (There is no Pacific Ocean) And make each line
Cut itself. Like seaweed thrown
Against the pier.
—from 'For Harvey', Jack Spicer

1. Doubt

2023
gelatin silver print
16 x 19.75 in

2. Bedbound

2023
Bed base (organic FSC wood, wool, cotton), inkjet print, upholstery nails
11 1/2 x 52 1/3 x 25 1/2 in

3. Grandiose

2023
Headboard (organic FSC wood, wool, cotton), inkjet prints, upholstery nails, plastic cups
83 x 47 1/2 x 25 in

4. Insides

2023
Bed base (organic FSC wood, wool, cotton), plywood, glass, LED light, inkjet prints, mattress cover, nightdress, shot glasses, plastic cups, whisky, beer, mattress cover, nightdress, shot glasses, plastic cups, whisky, beer
47 1/4 x 26 1/4 x 25 in

5. You wool-feathered bastard

2023
Organic latex, cotton and wool cases, feather mattress topper, lamp, glass, inkjet prints
13 x 52 1/2 x 37 in

6. He doesn't believe in emotional transformation

2023
Bed base (organic FSC wood, wool, cotton), plywood, LED light, inkjet prints
23 1/4 x 36 1/4 x 52 1/4 in

7. False Case

2023
Bed base (organic FSC wood, wool, cotton), organic latex, cotton case
40 x 79 x 12 1/2 in

8. Telling Time/Cut

2023
Organic latex, digital clock, glass, inkjet print
7 3/4 x 38 3/4 x 53 in

9. Any resemblance between this film and so-called reality has to be a misunderstanding

2023
Bed base (organic FSC wood, wool, cotton), organic latex, plywood, inkjet print
78 x 158 x 12 3/4 in

10. Lit Défait

2023
Bed base (organic FSC wood, wool, cotton), organic latex, plywood, LED light, glass, inkjet prints, upholstery nails
13 x 52 1/2 x 37 in