

Anna Guyton

Artist Bio

Anna Guyton (they/them) is a multimodal artist from Fayetteville, Arkansas. They earned a BA in Studio Art from Reed College in Portland, Oregon, and in 2024 returned home to pursue an MFA in Photography at the University of Arkansas.

Guyton's work explores how queer bodies occupy space, how images can contain labor and desire, and how visibility can function as both vulnerability and resistance. Their practice foregrounds the materiality of the photographic image, treating it as a physical object that can be handled, altered, woven, and re-situated within physical space.

Guyton's work has been exhibited in various venues, including a 2023 solo show entitled *Transfiguration* at Mt. Sequoyah (Fayetteville, AR), and in galleries in Portland, Chicago, Minneapolis, Dallas, and across Arkansas. Beyond their studio practice, Guyton has led workshops at the Portland Art Museum, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, CACHE, and the Chicago People's Center for Contemporary Cultural Arts.

Artist Statement

I'm interested in the physicality of an image, how to emphasize a photograph's materiality, how photographs can occupy space. This material interrogation is an extension of my interest in an image's potential corporeality, and my belief in the importance of acknowledging and of representing bodies - queer and trans and fat bodies.

The work holds space for marginalized bodies to feel seen, named, desired, and tenderly recognized. An acceptance of flesh, a step towards some bigger transformation in attitudes or perceptions. I am simultaneously contending with people's intolerance of said imagery, their fear or disgust or confusion, their need to hide it away. These discourses puncture the work, not because I aim to shock, but because the depiction of certain bodies continue to be framed as a threat. I see my current work as a negotiation: the regulation of bodies and gazes, the aesthetics of censorship, the powers of making-visible, the politics of withholding. They inhabit a charged terrain where materials become agents, where craft becomes critique, where the obsessive, tactile, slow processes of looking and making insist on the body's right to exist.



In Context, 36 x 55 inches, Inkjet vinyl print adhered to window blinds, NFS.