

firstdraft

Gallery 2

8 December - 28 January

Protector

Shannon Toth

@shannon__toth | www.shannontoth.net

Food is a simple need for the body, eating is complex. *Protector* explores the sticky dynamics between food and self, and how these relations manifest as embodied experiences. Food can bring people together, soothe, comfort and celebrate, but it can also set the table for an inner battle.

In this exhibition, Shannon uses marshmallow to create a large folded object and binds together a curved pine structure. The marshmallow appears to be pillowy and soft like a doona or blanket but is also pliable and plump-like flesh. The folded form of the object suggests domesticity like it belongs in the linen cupboard.

The curved pine structure has the dimensions of a single bed frame, yet it's warped and balances precariously on a curved edge, rocking like a baby's cradle - but for an adult body. While a child is nursed and comforted by a rocking motion, the same action in an adult-sized bed suggests a sexual act.

It is absurd to rely on marshmallow for a blanket and a distorted rocking bed for comfort and protection, but if it's all you've got then it's a perfectly viable adaptation.

Shannon Toth (b. 1992) is an artist based in Naarm, Melbourne, VIC. Drawing upon embodied experience they heat, bend and wear down materials to uncover their pliability. Through a discourse from engineering and cooking, they reconfigure the familiar to explore the tension between minimalism and abundance.

In 2016 they completed a Bachelor of Architecture from Queensland University of Technology. Recently they graduated with a bachelor of Fine Art from the University of Melbourne.

Gallery 1
Samantha Snedden
The Enlightenment

Gallery 3
Sharoud Ghahani
Remnants of a dismantled state

Gallery 4
Olga Svyatova
So this is goodbye?

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Cradle, 2022

marshmallow, pine

90 cm x 180 cm

Shannon Toth

Protector, 2023

marshmallow, icing sugar

variable dimensions

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