

• FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE •

Adam Milner
Desirable Objects

June 16 – July 15, 2017

Opening Reception: Friday, June 16th, 2017, 6 - 8pm

Free and open to the public / Artist in Attendance



Adam Milner, *Various Documents (November 30, 2015)*, 2010-2017 (ongoing), digital photographic archive.

I once had sex with someone and our skin never touched. Even so, bodies are porous things, seeping into each other, leaving traces behind. Inside and outside, what's mine and what's yours, where I begin and end; these are confusing distinctions that break down the more they're interrogated.

- Adam Milner, 2017

David B. Smith Gallery is proud to present Adam Milner's first solo exhibition in the main gallery, *Desirable Objects*. With works that contemplate corporeality and shared space between bodies, Milner uses blood, flowers, hair, belly button lint, false eyelashes to close gaps between natural and artificial, human and non-human, inside and outside.

The works, comprised of rigorously collected and mined material from himself, friends, strangers, and other living things, collectively ask questions about who or what has a body and how those bodies are organized or collected. The acquisition of many of these materials hinges on complicated social contracts and negotiations, exchanges the artist has chosen to not overtly publish within the exhibition. We see many first names: Fred, Jenn, Andy, and thus are let into Milner's personal relationships, but kept at a distance.

Featured in the exhibition are several works which showcase pressed flowers from the artist's walks through the city, interspersed with his own eyelashes. These delicate artifacts, resting comfortably in shallow paper cradles, suggest parallels between the human body and that of a flower. Natural history preservation and display methods are conflated with a personal archive of memories and objects, complicating hierarchies of how and why we save things.

Other personal mementos are embedded in Lunar Regolith Bricks, a new technology NASA is formulating as a way to create concrete on the Moon. While creating these works Milner wonders, "What is more desirable than the moon?" By focusing on the moon, an object which is constantly sought after – by technologists, world leaders, even romantic couples – and pairing that image with the body, Milner's perspective reveals itself as somewhere between the deeply intimate and the distant or out of reach. Distance is collapsed and ideas of closeness get messy.

About Adam Milner

Adam Milner (b. 1988, Denver) is an artist making archives, performances, and drawings that reveal a personal vulnerability while examining broader politics of relationships and intimacy. He has exhibited at the Aspen Art Museum, the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver, Casa Maauad (Mexico City), and David B. Smith Gallery (Denver). He received his MFA in 2017 from Carnegie Mellon University, and currently lives and works in Pittsburgh.

About David B. Smith Gallery

David B. Smith Gallery is committed to presenting intelligent and culturally relevant exhibitions in its Denver location, featuring the region's most important emerging talent alongside internationally recognized artists. Through its curatorial program, participation in art fairs, and extensive media coverage in publications such as *Art in America* and *ARTnews*, David B. Smith Gallery has cultivated a strong regional, national, and international collector audience. *The New York Times* hailed the gallery as offering "an exciting contrast of cutting edge works" and *The Denver Post* declared that it is the "premiere commercial space" in Denver. The gallery also maintains an active publishing division, which produces exhibition catalogues and editions.