

• FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE •

Secret Love Collective

Gay Renaissance

August 16 – September 14, 2019

Opening Reception: Friday, August 16th, 6 - 8 pm

Free and open to the public/ Artists in Attendance

David B. Smith Gallery is proud to present *Gay Renaissance*, an installation-based exhibition by Denver's own Secret Love Collective.

Bounding with vibrantly colored handmade pom poms, carefully stitched banners, and mound upon mound of soft sculpture, *Gay Renaissance* brings a sense of maximalist celebration to the gallery's project room. Impervious to, or perhaps in spite of increasing societal and political divisiveness, Secret Love Collective unapologetically infuses radical love into every plush, patterned nook and cranny.

With a proud history of spontaneous dance parties and costumed sidewalk parades, the joy of queerness sparkles like iridescent sequins throughout all of Secret Love's endeavors. Working together to create immersive installations and experiences, the collective embraces the potential of critical collaboration. Self-emancipated from the rigidity of convention, Secret Love Collective's *Gay Renaissance* proves once and for all that love itself can be a life-changing revolution, and that sharing secrets is undoubtedly a good thing.



Image: Secret Love Collective, *Anniversary*, 2018, mixed media installation, dimensions variable

About Secret Love Collective

Secret Love Collective was born in early 2017 out of a desire to connect and create worlds that do not yet exist. Through gatherings, events, performances, and exhibitions, Secret Love engages friends and strangers in questioning the status quo, rigid categories of identity, dominant social structures, and art world hierarchies. The collective employs everything from fabric to dance parties, pom poms to costumes in their interactive art experiences. You can always count on lots of color, playfulness, and fun in a Secret Love Collective exhibition. The collective is made up of several Denver artists including Katy Batsel, Lares Feliciano, Colby Phillip Graham, Piper Rose, Frankie Toan, Genevieve Waller, Katy Zimmerman, and Lauren Zwicky.

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.

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