

Autocast 7

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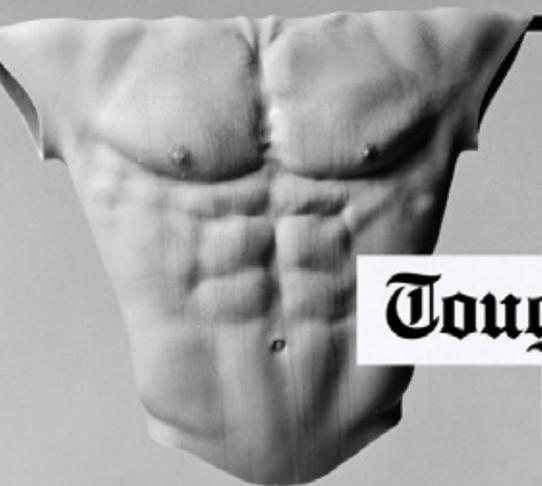
I've always liked my hairy pits and sticks.



Leather, dyke, soft, n
Girl, boy, they/them,
BUTCH, hard, trans,
Tuff, DIY, power, lov
Queer, cruiser, FIST,
Intimate, punk, tend
Anarchy, rebel, lesbia
+++++
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Leather, dyke, soft, m
Girl, boy, they/them, l
BUTCH, hard, trans, l
Tuff, DIY, power, lov
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Intimate, punk, tender
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+++++



Forgiveness



Toughness & Tenderness

21.02.23 - 25.02.23



No more a lesbian than simply a pussy lover.

SHARK CHANTS

WHEN I SAY FEMME YOU SAY SHARK!
WHEN I SAY FEMME, YOU SAY POWER!
WHEN I SAY FINGER, YOU SAY BANG!
FEMME SHARKS WANT JUSTICE! AND WE WANT TO
GET BA
ALL MY

I can't handle the thought of you seeing me without a firm grip on all of mine.



Toughness & Tenderness

*A probe into the waltzing tension
between toughness and tenderness*

21 – 25 February 2023



183-185 Bermondsey Street London SE1 3UW

abps@project-space.london 0203 441 5152

Toughness and Tenderness

Outer shells of leather and metal rub against warm flesh in the corners of the early hours. This armour cracks to unveil a gentle, throbbing heart. Pinkness role plays a devilish charm, soft at first, later, hard as stone.

This collective exhibition of queer artists, celebrates the building of a culture around symbols of identity and ways of being. Red-lips, fluidity, fire, softness, caress, tight, kiss, scratch, cold, leather, pumping, flesh, breeze. Collaging a sense of self and community within contradictions and between binaries.

Artists: **Charley Sayers, Cris Volpe, Hanon, Imogen Cleverley, Jesse Glazzard, Jody Evans, Josiah Moktar, Juliusz Grabianski, Maria Mautino, Maite de Orbe, Jessie Patrick-Hooper, Meg Vaughan, Annalisa Hayes, Eleanor Daly, Martha Summers**

“We are stone, our limits and boundaries not just to keep others out but to keep ourselves in. Beach stones picked up and warmed in the palm, ice melting slowly and all of a sudden too fast, liquid, merging with each other into an indistinguishable sea, waves breaking on the shore of hatred.”

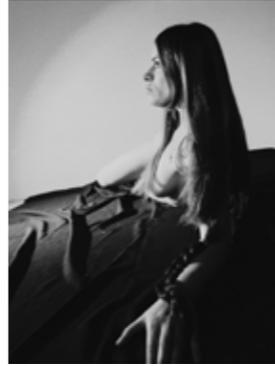
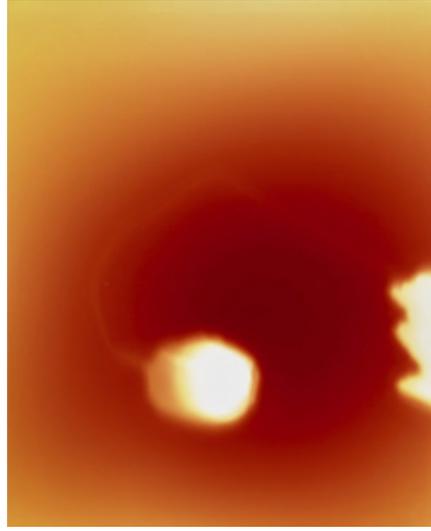
Worn, embodied, and played. Toughness in the subtleties of interaction, gaze and recognition, as a shield, a message, a way of dressing, an invitation. Tenderness as the warm embrace of whispering to a lover, a stranger, a friend – I see you, you can be safe here. An inner visceral warm space. A nurturing cocoon. In learning to choose kindness over hate.

Coding and flagging, not deleted, bodies not censored, pleasure not determined, love not criminalized. Originally inspired by poetry on queer relationships/erotica, this group exhibition responds to (self?) identification through sculpture, digital art, photography, spoken word, poetry, painting, video and installations.

“Toughened, turning the other cheek, and turning it again to receive a lover’s kiss, choose for tonight, tough or tender, and choose again in the morning. knowing that you can see through the act. Leather cracks in the tender crevices all my strength to hold you down and to hold you up.”



KISS (detail) | Jody Evans
Giclée on Hahnemühle photo rag, 100 x 74cm
£400



Maite de Orbe | *Top row, left to right:*

Postcards from Lovers - Virginia I

Silver gelatin print, metal chain, edition of 10, 14.8 x 10.5cm | **£120**

soft-heat II

C-Type photogram, unique, 25.4 x 20.3.4cm | **£280**

soft-heat III

C-Type photogram, unique, 25.4 x 20.3.4cm | **£280**

Postcards from Lovers - Virginia II

Silver gelatin print, metal chain, edition of 10, 14.8 x 10.5cm | **£120**

Maite de Orbe | *Bottom row, left to right:*

Caymanite

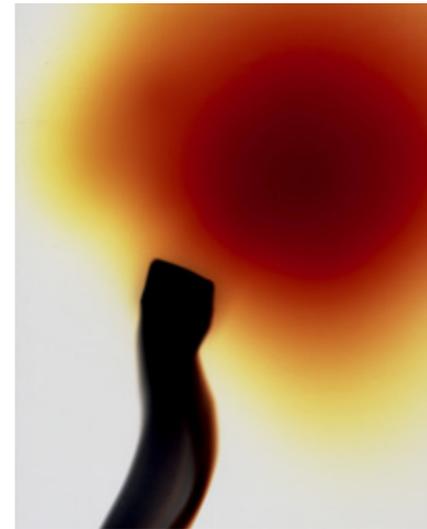
C-Type print, edition of 10, 30.5 x 25.4cm | **£200**

soft-heat I

C-Type photogram, unique, 25.4 x 20.3.4cm | **£280**

Postcards from Lovers - Monstera

Silver gelatin print, metal chain, edition of 10, 10.5 x 14.8cm | **£120**





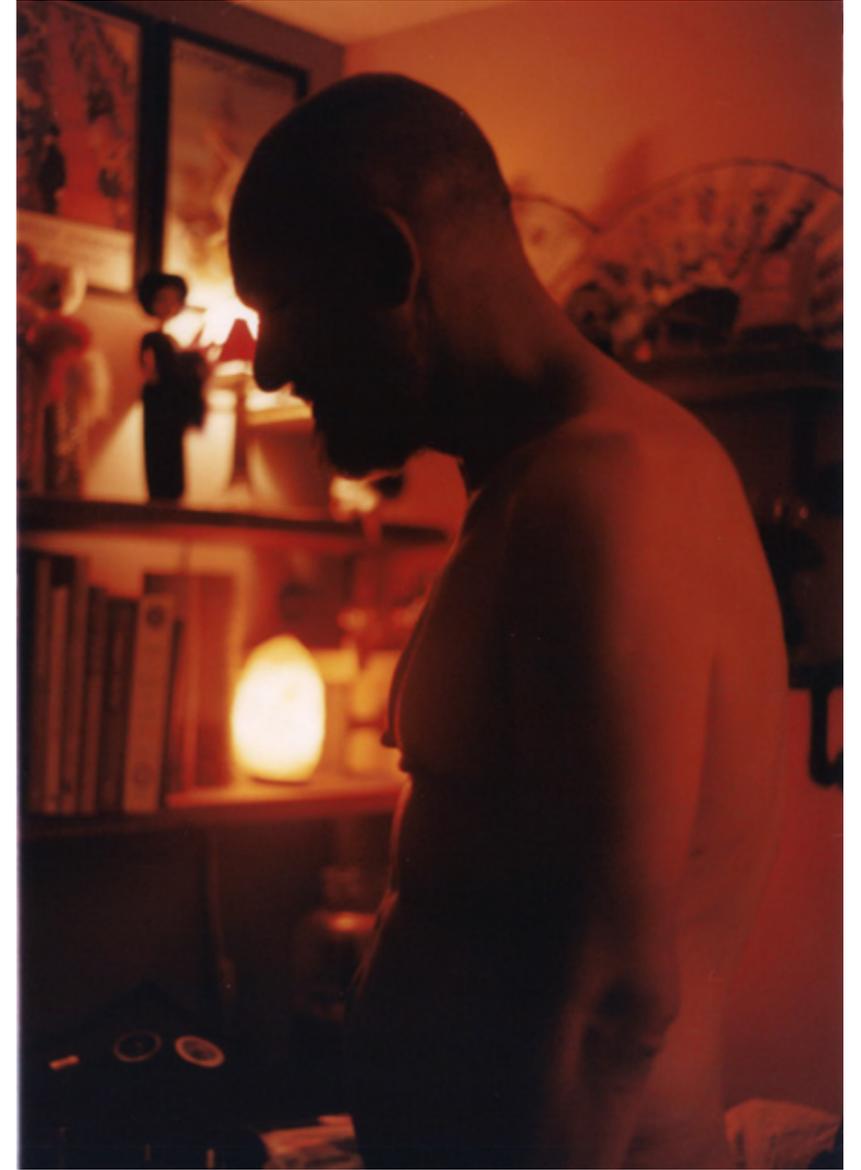
Martha Summers | *TOOLbelt*
Leather, 29cm x 40cm x 27cm approx
NFS



Juliusz Grabianski | *Desire Paths*

Video, dimensions variable

NFS



Josiah Moktar | *Elliot, Athens, 2023* | *Therapist's Office, 2019* | *Steve, 2021*
C-type darkroom hand prints, 12" x 16"
£220 each

Moonshine

Moonshine

Desire on your lips

The death of me in your kiss

Eclipsed by the way the moonlight sits inside your eyelids

I am suffocated by my undone desire for you

Unbutton your blouse

Flowers dancing on your shirt

Captured by the flicker of vanilla in your candle

You aphrodisiac

Not the candle

You

The arch in your spine

Sweat dripping in between

My skin under your fingernails

Thigh between yours

You whisper your arrival between moans

I let you know you are welcome between sighs

You knock on the door of your ecstasy

And I permit you to enter

But only because I can smell the sun on your breath

And rest for the night in your bosom

Hanon Gordon

Hanon | *Moonshine*

Printed poetry, 30 x 21cm

NFS

Hanon | *Touch* | *My Favourite Colour Used to be Blue*

Pressure Handle | *Shy Lover*

Printed poetry, 30 x 21cm

NFS

Touch

*It's the way you touch me
In ways I didn't know I needed to be
Ways I didn't know I wanted to be
It's the way hold me
and caress me
pulling me tighter*

*The tautness screams of your soul's yearnings for intertwining
For closeness
For union*

*beyond the physical
metaphysical*

*As if you've known me before,
touched and held me before
Trace the map that's my body
with your fingers
then your tongue*

*Tying knots with cherry stems in my lotus
Oh how you've taught me to flower
Blossom
Bloom*

*Like flowers do under the light of the moon
Illuminate sides of me
lesser known but never forgotten*

*Breathe into me,
as I do into you
Orbit*

I pray your touch never feels rotten.

Hanon Gordon

Pressure Handle

*It's the pressure
Of your groin against my hips beckoning me to put
your pleasure in my hand and hold it.*

*Much like I do those cheeks you so gracefully perch
on
or my knees you so fearlessly venture between
Slaying villain and beast in the quest to reach the
destination that is my,*

*Weak panders and limp whimpers begging you to let
me catch my breath before I
slip off the fine line betwixt reality and ecstatic
euphoria because one thing about me.*

*I'm happy to share my pleasure, put it in your hand
and let you hold it,
but only if you stop before I reach the top because
I can't handle the thought of you seeing me without a
firm grip on all of mine.*

*Much like the moon can't shine without a firm grip of
the tides
I can't ride the waves without a board or a boat -
coming on so strong, can't take it, don't let me choke,
let me drown instead.*

Overcome by the ferocity of the waves in your ocean,

Let me drown instead.

Hanon Gordon

My favourite colour used to be blue

*My favourite colour used to be blue,
now its pink and grey.
Pink now because it doesn't make me a
girly girl anymore and grey, because
I've always been somewhere in
between.*

*Are you a girl or a boy?
I'd be asked in a floral skirt, bright pink
socks in bright pink trainers
'Please daddy can you buy me jeans'
I would plead when my skirts got too
short to be appropriate for church
When I have a son he's going to have
long hair I'd say knowing
that 'boys can't have long hair' because
long hair is for girls 14 years old
buying obnoxiously bright blue and
yellow socks that read 'stud' across the
middle how to out yourself without
coming out.*

*I was jealous when girls fancied my
best friend.
Angered when treated as the weaker
vessel females are socialised to become.
Isolated when I learnt that boys and
girls can't just be friends.
When your ability to mirror for the
sake of societal digestibility
taints the perception of what you see
looking back at you in
the mirror.*

*Make up, short skirts and tight jeans,
Push up bras, dresses and shaving
cream.
'Body hair isn't very ladylike' my uncle
indoctrinated.
I've always like my hairy pits and
sticks.*

*Self-imprisonment,
you are to be but yourself.
Self-judgement,
It is not safe to express
self-hatred
It is not safe to be true
digestibility
the desire born from rejection,
sensitivity
If only I'd known
'I'm a lesbian'
It's safe when you admit it to yourself
first.
You know you've always fancied your
best friend,
boys and girls can be just friends
no more a lesbian than simply a pussy
lover
my first home,
unlocked the sense of freedom to make
a home in my second.*

*My favourite colour used to be blue,
Now its pink and grey.*

Hanon Gordon

Shy Lover

*Messages sent in the locking of eyes,
feelings expressed in the corner of your smile
unspoken understandings cemented in embraces
true hearts intention written across all of your faces
shy lover you.*

*Assert yourself with understated dominance
send shivers down my spine when your skin touches mine
feel your intention in each drop of sweat
to have and to hold in this moment only
shy lover you.*

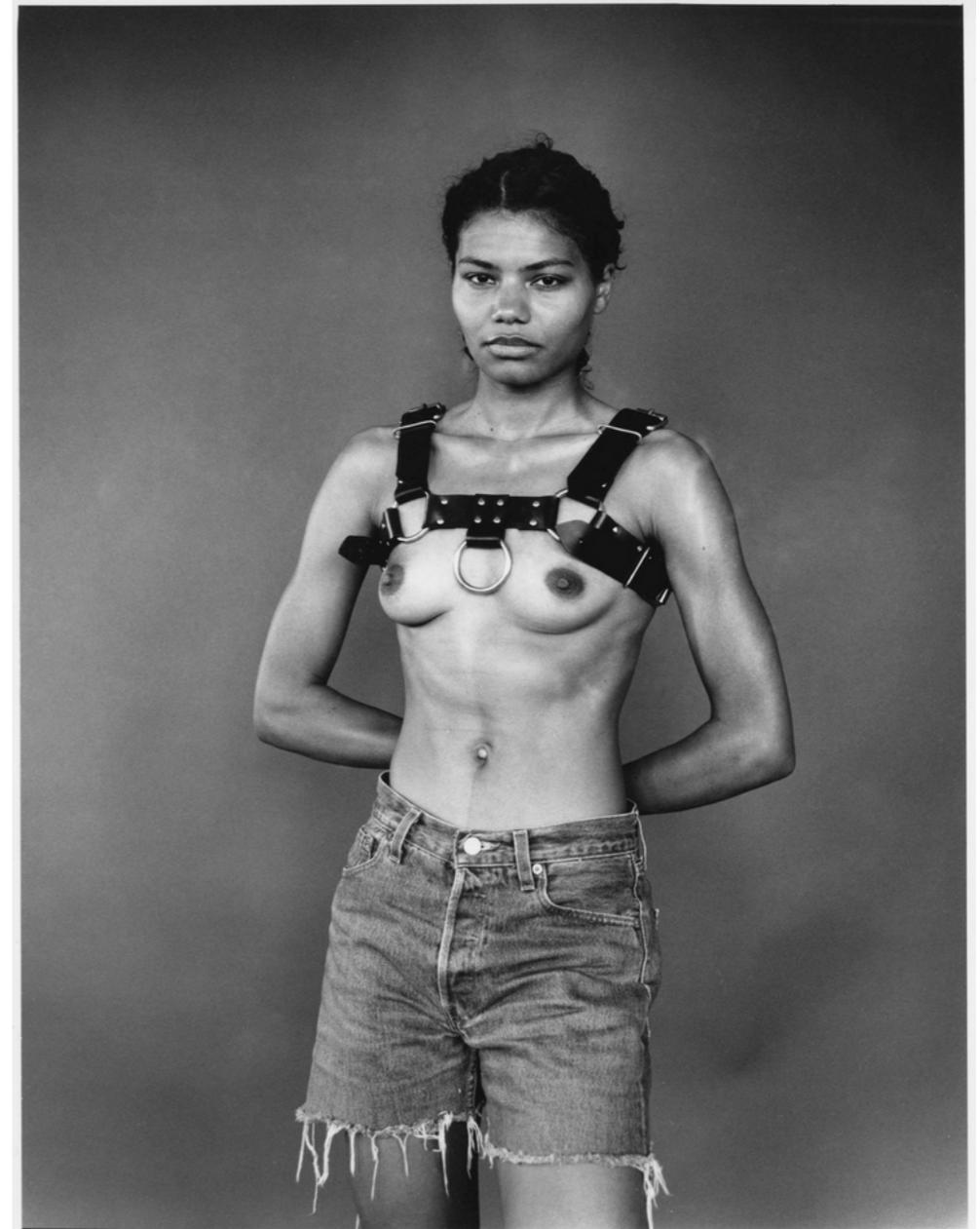
*Slowly opening like growing oscillations
making it my preoccupation to unpack whatever it is that comes with you
your suitcases aren't mine but i'm happy to help with inventory
this intrigue you've evoked
Shy lover you.*

*On the rare occasion your Freudian slips cement your intention with
tangible
vibration
followed by but never questioning the why's of the 'okay bye's' because
you.
Shy lover you,
are fronting,
and I see right through you.*

Hanon Gordon



Jesse Glazzard | *Ella in Studio*
Silver gelatin, 30.5 x 25.4cm
£400



Jesse Glazzard | *Gideon in studio*
Silver gelatin, 40.6 x 30.5cm
£600



Annalisa Hayes | *Unravel/Reassemble (all kinds of messed up)*

Neoprene rubber, leather and steel, Dimensions variable

NFS





Jessie Patrick-Hooper | *Tender Object No.1*
Leather and brass, 86 x 25cm
£300



Jessie Patrick-Hooper | *Sleeping*
Bronze, 20cm diameter
NFS



Maria Mautina | Working Hands

Sewing, embroidery and crochet, mixed fibers, washers, rope and wire, 150 x 50cm
£350



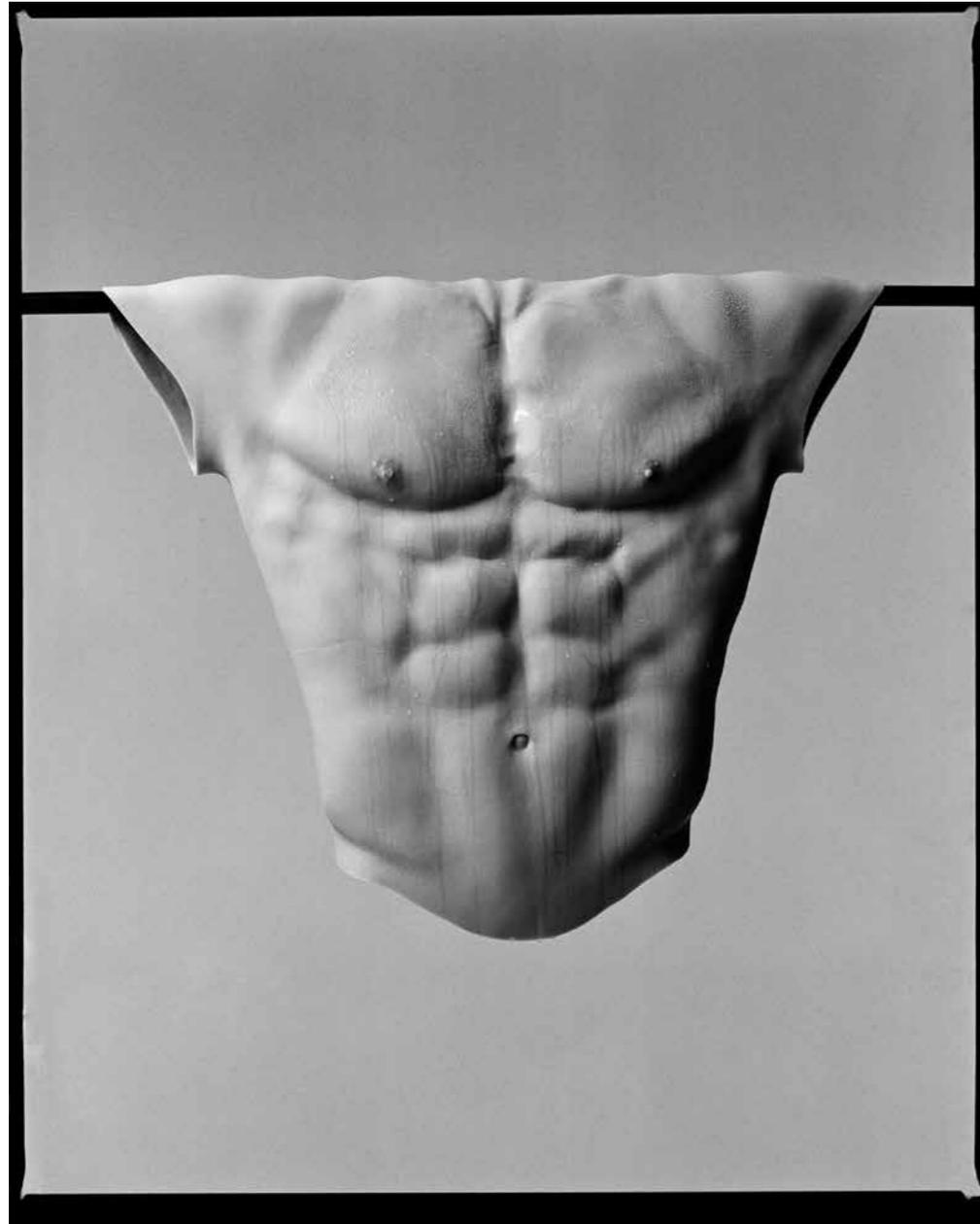
Maria Mautina | Tough/Tender

Crochet, knitting and sewing, mixed fibers and washers, 30 x 75cm
£200



Meg Vaughan | *Touched*
Mixed media, dimensions variable
£400





Cris Volpe | Torso
Digital print, 140 x 100cm
£300



Cris Volpe | Keziah with Dildo | Lick the Pit
Digital prints, 12 x 10cm each
£40 each



Cris Volpe | Scissors
Digital print, 26 x 20cm
£60



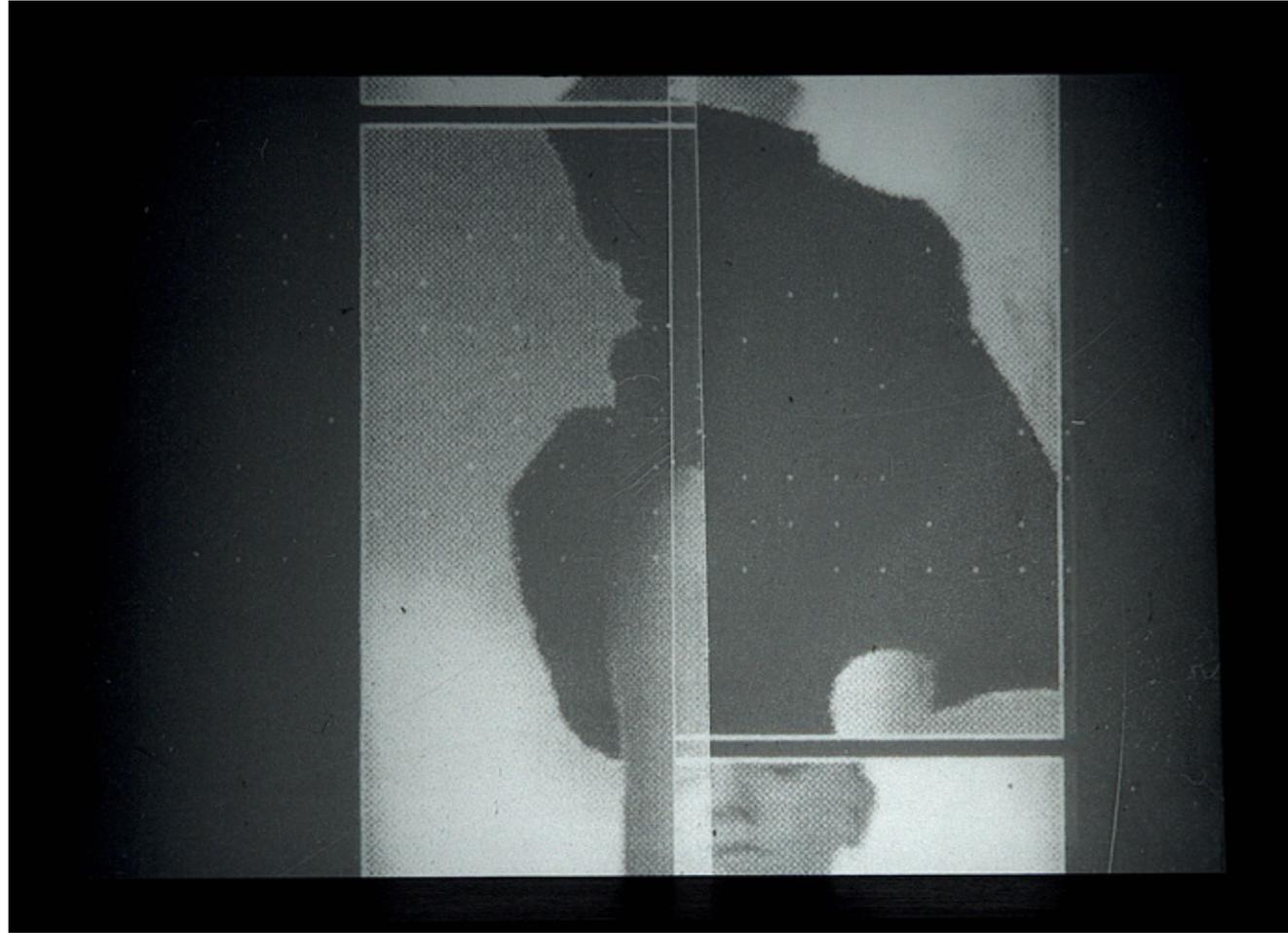
Eleanor Daly | *It's Through You, and I Know*

Oil on canvas, 150 x 200cm

£3,000



Imogen Cleverley | *Coming to Power I, II, III, IV, V*
Polaroid lifts on leather, 16 x 16cm
Original prints NFS - Prints available at £25 each



Francisca Mendes | *The Noise of Being*
Super 35mm film transferred into digital 2K
NFS





Jody Evans | KISS
Giclée on Hahnemühle photo rag, 100 x 74cm
£400



Jody Evans | Armour I and II
Silver gelatin print, latex and chains, dimensions variable
£350 each



Jody Evans | Armour III
Printed poem, latex and chains, dimensions variable
£150



Jody Evans | *Awkward* | *After Sex* | *Untitled II* | *Diamante Pants, Forgot To Put On My Boots*
Silver gelatine prints, first editions, 25 x 20cm each
£250 each

Jody Evans | *Leather Daddy* | *Plate of Meat* | *Self-Portrait In My Room* | *Untitled I*
Silver gelatine prints, first editions, 25 x 20cm each
£250 each

Toughness & Tenderness

*A probe into the waltzing tension
between toughness and tenderness*

21 – 25 February 2023

Part of

LGBTQIA+ History Month

at Bermondsey Project Space

A month-long programme of exhibitions, events, film screenings and happenings celebrating and exploring LGBTQIA+ communities and identities.

Back cover

Martha Summers | TOOLbelt
Leather, 29cm x 40cm x 27cm approx
NFS



Proceeds from sales support the
BPS Outreach Programme
working with young people in South London

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