

CUCHIFRITOS

GALLERY + PROJECT SPACE

———— a program of ARTISTS ALLIANCE INC

artistsallianceinc.org 88 Essex Street
New York NY 10002

Tues through Sun
Noon - 6p or by appt.

Joseph Buckley

Cousin Table

January 10 through February 16, 2020

Cuchifritos Gallery + Project Space is pleased to present *Cousin Table*, an exhibition with works by LES Studio Program Resident Joseph Buckley.

Cousin Table is a show of new sculptural works, which take as their starting points a diverse array of topics and concerns: the temperature of our politics, sleep paralysis, and fantasies of escapism.

Joseph Buckley is a British artist currently residing and working in Brooklyn, New York. Buckley's work has previously been exhibited across the United States, Europe, and Japan. <http://jbxviii.co.uk/works.html>

Artists Alliance Inc. is 501c3 not for profit organization located on the Lower East Side of New York City within the Clemente Soto Véllez Cultural and Educational Center. Cuchifritos Gallery is supported in part by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council. Exhibition programming is made possible by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. We thank the New York City Economic Development Corporation and individual supporters of Artists Alliance Inc for their continued support. Special thanks go to our team of dedicated volunteers and interns, without whom this program would not be possible.



Q: What is a “cousin table” and why did you choose to use this term as the title of the show?

Cousin Table is the title of the central sculpture in the exhibition 'Cousin Table'.

It is a sculpture consisting of four 1/5 scale models of the 'original' 1792 french guillotine, inverted to serve as table legs for a tabletop made of innards. The innards, rendered in an antiseptic, sterile pink feature a swollen bunch of purple wine grapes in place of the liver and stomach, and a head held in a hand in the place of the heart.

The work has gone through many revisions, mutations, and restarts between now and its beginning.

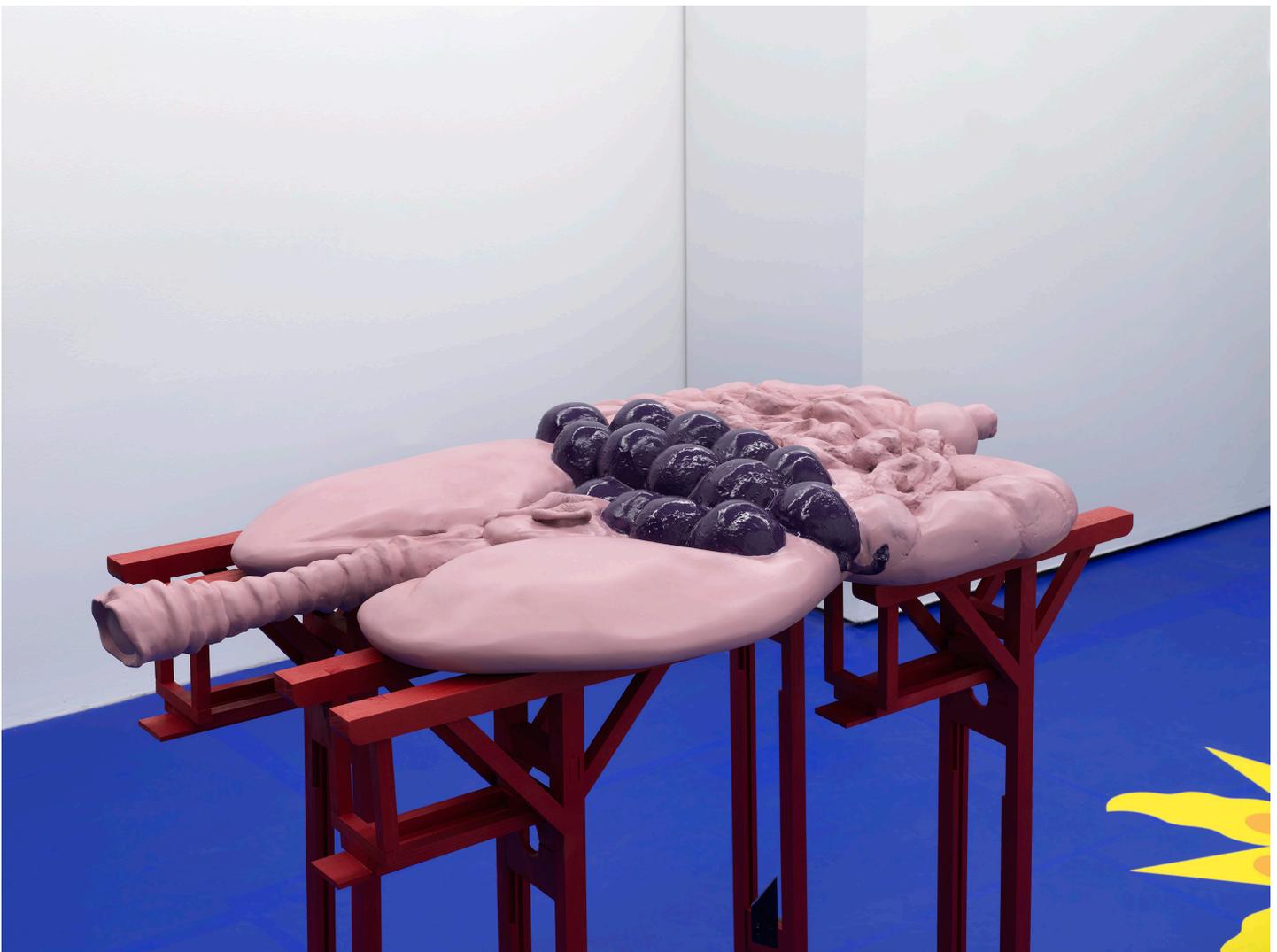
We live in a world defined by injustice. This injustice has become increasingly obvious over the last few years. As a result, guillotines have been something I've been

thinking about a lot. They have become the punchline to many of the jokes my friends and I make (and, indeed, of a great many other people on the internet).

In the context of the revolution that spawned it, the guillotine is a tool for the end of normal political processes. A tool for when the poor and oppressed, those habituated to powerlessness, seek violent and bloody rebirth. A tool for inverting societies: when a guillotine is flipped upside down its meaning is not 'switched off' but it is instead suffused with the hopelessness of suspended animation.

This is to say: guillotines inverted do not work. Their inversion and shrinkage into table legs is about the impotence of those still habituated to powerlessness.

The innards were made whilst thinking about family. I am a black caribbean person from Britain. The community I come from is despised by the wider country (you cannot even be a member of the royal family without suffering





from racism). I come from a community where you call the children of your mother's friends "cousins" and I have been thinking about the gooey sloppiness of the institution of the family and what we do and do not owe each other.

I have been thinking about alcoholism, and its integral and cancerous role in British society. I have been thinking about sleeping, and being tired. The innards, incorrectly assembled, lain out into a lying diagram constitutes the end point of an evolutionary process that began with British Shelving System (2018): where once bodies must be stacked and forced into becoming furniture.

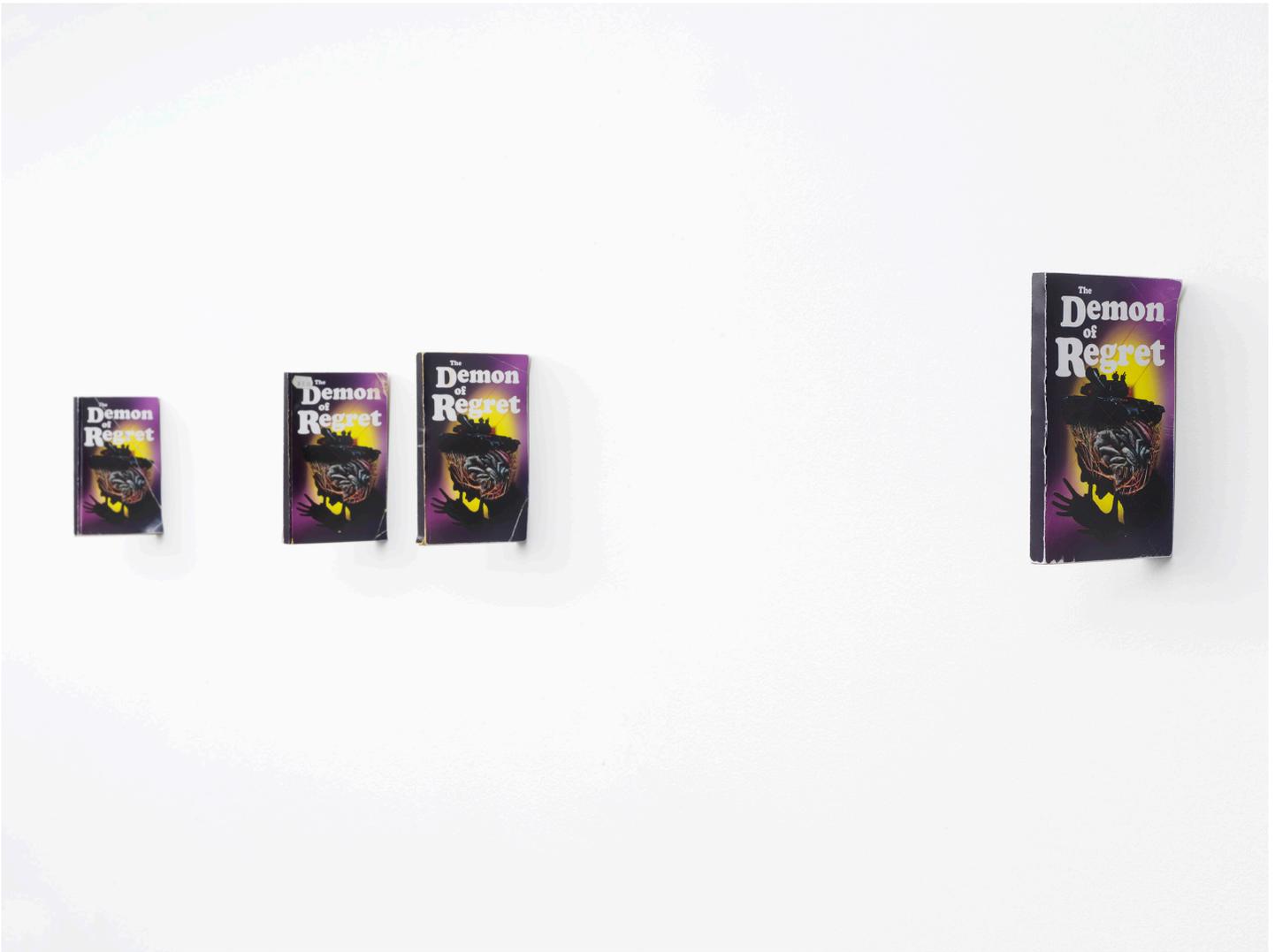
Here, in Cousin Table, bodies, flayed and de-muscled, can no longer survive without legs of hopelessness.

Q: Why did you select the particular forms reflected in the floor installation and series of novels?

A: My sister and I had a precarious childhood. We had to move house a lot. My Mum made an effort to make our rooms as comfortable as possible, and was careful to take the curtains from my bedroom from house to house. The sigils from Floor Work 2020 are derived from the design on those curtains.

Demon of Regret takes its title from a show at the International Studio & Curatorial Project in 2016. The title remained pertinent and, in the interim, became the name of a character in a novel I am currently writing. The imagery on the front cover of the work is an illustrative depiction of what would be a key event in a story focussed on that character but, in the wider novel I am actually working on, is just one event in many. An attempt to recontextualise and anthropomorphize banal feelings of saddened regret through a logic of demonology.





Floor Work 2020
2020
Self adhesive vinyl
320ft²

Cousin Table
2020
Wood, Foam, Cord, Aluminium, Epoxy Resin
40^{3/4}" x 28^{1/4}" x 48^{1/2}"

Demon of Regret
2020
pulp sf novels
6^{5/8}" x 4^{1/8}" x 5/8" (x7)



photography credit: Dario Lasagni

<u>Common Ancestor</u>	<u>Grandparent</u>	<u>Great Grandparent</u>	<u>Great 2nd Grandparent</u>	<u>Great 3rd Grandparent</u>	<u>Great 4th Grandparent</u>	<u>Great 5th Grandparent</u>	<u>Great 6th Grandparent</u>	<u>Great 7th Grandparent</u>	<u>Great 8th Grandparent</u>	<u>Great 9th Grandparent</u>	<u>Great 10th Grandparent</u>
<u>Grandparent</u>	1st Cousin	1st Cousin once removed	1st Cousin 2x removed	1st Cousin 3x removed	1st Cousin 4x removed	1st Cousin 5x removed	1st Cousin 6x removed	1st Cousin 7x removed	1st Cousin 8x removed	1st Cousin 9x removed	1st Cousin 10x removed
<u>Great Grandparent</u>	1st Cousin once removed	2nd Cousin	2nd Cousin once removed	2nd Cousin 2x removed	2nd Cousin 3x removed	2nd Cousin 4x removed	2nd Cousin 5x removed	2nd Cousin 6x removed	2nd Cousin 7x removed	2nd Cousin 8x removed	2nd Cousin 9x removed
<u>Great 2nd Grandparent</u>	1st Cousin 2x removed	2nd Cousin once removed	3rd Cousin	3rd Cousin once removed	3rd Cousin 2x removed	3rd Cousin 3x removed	3rd Cousin 4x removed	3rd Cousin 5x removed	3rd Cousin 6x removed	3rd Cousin 7x removed	3rd Cousin 8x removed
<u>Great 3rd Grandparent</u>	1st Cousin 3x removed	2nd Cousin 2x removed	3rd Cousin once removed	4th Cousin	4th Cousin once removed	4th Cousin 2x removed	4th Cousin 3x removed	4th Cousin 4x removed	4th Cousin 5x removed	4th Cousin 6x removed	4th Cousin 7x removed
<u>Great 4th Grandparent</u>	1st Cousin 4x removed	2nd Cousin 3x removed	3rd Cousin 2x removed	4th Cousin once removed	5th Cousin	5th Cousin once removed	5th Cousin 2x removed	5th Cousin 3x removed	5th Cousin 4x removed	5th Cousin 5x removed	5th Cousin 6x removed
<u>Great 5th Grandparent</u>	1st Cousin 5x removed	2nd Cousin 4x removed	3rd Cousin 3x removed	4th Cousin 2x removed	5th Cousin once removed	6th Cousin	6th Cousin once removed	6th Cousin 2x removed	6th Cousin 3x removed	6th Cousin 4x removed	6th Cousin 5x removed
<u>Great 6th Grandparent</u>	1st Cousin 6x removed	2nd Cousin 5x removed	3rd Cousin 4x removed	4th Cousin 3x removed	5th Cousin 2x removed	6th Cousin once removed	7th Cousin	7th Cousin once removed	7th Cousin 2x removed	7th Cousin 3x removed	7th Cousin 4x removed
<u>Great 7th Grandparent</u>	1st Cousin 7x removed	2nd Cousin 6x removed	3rd Cousin 5x removed	4th Cousin 4x removed	5th Cousin 3x removed	6th Cousin 2x removed	7th Cousin once removed	8th Cousin	8th Cousin once removed	8th Cousin 2x removed	8th Cousin 3x removed
<u>Great 8th Grandparent</u>	1st Cousin 8x removed	2nd Cousin 7x removed	3rd Cousin 6x removed	4th Cousin 5x removed	5th Cousin 4x removed	6th Cousin 3x removed	7th Cousin 2x removed	8th Cousin once removed	9th Cousin	9th Cousin once removed	9th Cousin 2x removed
<u>9th Great Grandparent</u>	1st Cousin 9x removed	2nd Cousin 8x removed	3rd Cousin 7x removed	4th Cousin 6x removed	5th Cousin 5x removed	6th Cousin 4x removed	7th Cousin 3x removed	8th Cousin 2x removed	9th Cousin once removed	10th Cousin	10th Cousin once removed
<u>Great 10th Grandparent</u>	1st Cousin 10x removed	2nd Cousin 9x removed	3rd Cousin 8x removed	4th Cousin 7x removed	5th Cousin 6x removed	6th Cousin 5x removed	7th Cousin 4x removed	8th Cousin 3x removed	9th Cousin 2x removed	10th Cousin once removed	11th Cousin



photo 2009.