For Immediate Release: Opening June 19th, Closing Reception: Friday, July 7th | 4–6 PM.

Act II: Fiction Brings It Closer

Curated by the SUGs Directors
Rebecca Hernandez, Stephanie Cristello, Al Porto, Joe Mault, and Tara Plath.

Featuring the work of Cameron Welch, Kristina Sparks, Laura Stewart, Max Garett, and Rik Garrett.


The absence of factual information is the result of a loss in translation inherent within the portrayal of a subject. This loss lends itself to a fictional system that can expose the reality of a subject, sometimes shaping our understanding in an even more actualized form than documentary allows. The works included in part two of this inaugural exhibition, a consecutive response to Act I: Absence Makes It Real, testify to this possibility through pieces that explore the space between the real and the artificial as a source for production.

By embracing these artificial narratives and the hyper-reality of their material context, the artists included in Act II: Fiction Brings It Closer examine this potential to decidedly comedic ends. Combining humor, double-entendre, stage prop aesthetics, or through the distortion of ‘script’, these artists theatrically champion farce as a way to highlight how negligent our eyes have become at recognizing the mediation inherent within the worldly systems their subjects employ.

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LEROY NEIMAN CENTER GALLERY | 312.899.7440 37 South Wabash Ave., Suite 106, Chicago, IL 60603 Tuesday- Friday: 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. | Saturday: 10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Alternate times by appointment.
SUGs MAIN OFFICE | 312.629.6860 36 S. Wabash Ave., Suite 1405 Fax | 312.629.6864

Founded in 1994, the Student Union Galleries (SUGs) at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) has established itself as a staple of SAIC’s student life—a place where student artists and curators can challenge their work in a public setting. SUGs is run by five student directors under the guidance of faculty advisor, Michael x. Ryan. Producing between 9 and 12 exhibitions of student work each year, SUGs facilitates programs that provide a more open exchange for students across disciplines and departments, as well as with vital members of Chicago’s art community. Many of SUGs alumni, both directors and exhibiting artists, have made substantial contributions to the arts in Chicago, and have built valuable careers in the arts both nationally and internationally.