

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Kenson Truong: *Bespoke*

December 10, 2021 – January 23, 2022

Artists' Receptions

Saturday, December 11, 4 – 8:30pm

New Year's Day, January 1, 3 – 6pm

With virtual & in-person Artist Talks

First Friday Reception

January 7, 5 – 8:30pm

Gallery Hours

Wednesday – Sunday, 11am – 5pm

The octopus, it is falling into oblivion. If only its skin were bespoke, perhaps then it would not feel the need to relentlessly change itself to mirror its environment. After this masquerade, will the octopus struggle to remember itself in the end? Will it remember its original skin color? In the octopus' final gambit to reclaim itself, he ends in annihilation – bridged by exile, or is it exaltation?

Bespoke, Kenson Truong's premiere solo exhibition at Boston Sculptors Gallery, explores visual and linguistic devices of camouflage through light, text, and sculptural installation. Inspired by the sensational camouflaging abilities of the octopus which allow it to hide in plain sight, the use of ultraviolet media allow Truong to create work that is virtually *invisible*. *Bespoke* is a series of poems in which the narrator struggles with race and sexuality, revealed only through the spectacle of ultraviolet light. As the viewer lingers in this dark space, discomfort arises as the work articulates anxieties derived from constantly negotiating one's identity and adapting alternate personas to *fit in*.

The text in *Bespoke* cites several literary, scientific, and cinematic sources, ranging from the film *My Octopus Teacher*, directed by Craig Foster, to *The Library of Babel* by Jorge Luis Borges, and *Vampyroteuthis Infernalis: A Treatise, with a Report by the Institut Scientifique De Recherche Paranaturaliste* by Vilém Flusser, among others.

Truong holds an MFA from School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University, Boston, MA, where he later served as a Post-Grad Teaching Fellow in the department of Sculpture & Performance. He mounted solo exhibitions at Mission Hill Gallery, Boston, MA; and Marion Nicoll Gallery and Alberta University of the Arts both in Calgary, AB, Canada. He joined Boston Sculptors in 2020.

Bespoke runs concurrently with Nancy Selvage: *Solstice*.

Contacts: # # #

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