

2025 MFA Thesis Show April 1–26, 2025

The Closest to the Future We Ever Got

Artists: M. Carson Day, Laurel Hauge, Lisa Marie Malloy, Dante Moore,
Jeff Rivers, Sheldon Till-Campbell, Zulkhairi Zulkiflee, olivier

Gallery 400
400 S. Peoria Street
Chicago, IL 60607

Reception: Friday, April 18, 2025, 6–9 p.m.

The artists in this exhibition engage with distinct lines of investigation. Among the works presented are meditations, explosions, estrangements, and criticisms. Holding space for contradiction, they function on their own terms while pointing to broader geographic, temporal, social, and theoretical contexts. Some works greet you like they want to help, others pull you into their immersive conditions, and a few just hope you'll sit with them for a while. Amidst uncertain realities, there is no time for endings, only bold gestures forward.

M. Carson Day (b. 1989) is a multi-disciplinary artist and fabricator from the heart of America. His practice rides a line between prop comedy and critical theory. The fabricated object and the found object act as the physical junction of art, poetry, and value, as well as class, Americana, and satire.
[@mcarsonday](#) | [mcdaystudio.net](#)

Laurel Hauge (b. 1994) works within structures of administration to subvert familiar concepts of artistic production. In the face of art's (mostly unrealized) potential to drive positive change, Hauge deliberately engages with inefficient systems contrived to "better" the community, city, or world, but which more often simply generate traceable outcomes that end up in tidy piles of statistics.
[@laurelhauge](#) | [laurelhauge.com](#)

Lisa Marie Malloy creates installations, short, and feature films that channel a collective plurality of imagined realities. Kneading the night—above and below ground—she brings memory, myth, nonlinear time, and systems of power and control into focus. She frequently collaborates with communities in rural settings across the U.S., Taiwan, and Honduras.
[@lisa.mariemalloy](#)

Dante Moore (b. 2000), a post-internet artist originally from Tulsa, Oklahoma. Their work blends photography, sculpture, and video games to explore identity and internet culture. Moore creates immersive installations using memes, digital imagery, and personal photos. Influenced by internet theory, their work reimagines self-image in online spaces.
[@zante2222](#)

Jeff Rivers is an African-American artist and educator from Columbia, SC. Jeff's art practice asserts the Black body is a politicized vessel that is historically representative of interactions of struggles for power within socio-political discourse. To this end, Jeff's uses the Black Figure and Consciousness as a foundation to interpret culture and explicate our daily socio-political experiences.
[@jeff.isontherise](#) | [luvemore.com](#)

Sheldon Till-Campbell (b.1993, Kansas City, MO) is a drawing-based artist whose work uses landscape as a framework to hold meditative space. His work grows from quiet, receptive practices of walking and observational drawing. These practices slowly generate abstractions that wrestle with scale, tactility, transformation, and the ethical dynamics of attention.
[@sheldontillcampbell](#) | [tillcampbell.com](#)

Zulkhairi Zulkiflee (b. 1991, Singapore) is an artist-curator whose lens-based practice focuses on contemporary Malay identity. Zulkhairi's dynamic practice is rooted in 'Malayness' as a propositional term, exploring its evolving representations. His image-centered artworks foreground the body as a plural marker, situating the Singaporean-Malay experience within broader global narratives.
[@22ulki](#) | [zulkhairizulkiflee.com](#)

olivier is an artist and cataloguer with a practice that lies in the creases of transness (translation, transgender, transnational). They toy with the instability of language for the sake of self-annihilation and they unobjectify texts to generate paradoxes. Born and raised in British Hong Kong, olivier and their time machine are temporarily stuck in this dimension. So it goes...
[@xoliivierx](#) | [xoliivierx.com](#)