

• FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE •

**Adam Milner**

*If digging something up makes it true, what does burying do?*

September 27 – November 2, 2019

Opening Reception: Friday, September 27th, 6 - 8 pm

Free and open to the public



Image: Adam Milner, 2019, glazed stoneware and 3D printed steel, 11 x 8.5 x 1 in. (27.94 x 21.59 x 2.54 cm)

Returning for his third solo exhibition with David B. Smith Gallery, Denver-born, Brooklyn-based artist Adam Milner continues his dialog with the various ways we keep and let go of the things around us. Milner's deeply personal practice attempts to reconcile the things in his life through gestures of clinging, containing, combining, and releasing.

*If digging something up makes it true, what does burying do?* features a series of ceramic wall sculptures which incorporate personal mementos and artifacts. Drawing upon display systems of the home, museum, and store, Milner carefully brings items into dialogue with each other and gives attention to their support structures. The locks of hair of strangers, given to the artist during previous exhibitions, hang from ceramic hooks. 3D-printed steel wishbone fragments carefully rest on tiny shelves. A full moon, sculpted from life and cast in plaster, takes over one assemblage.

Scaled to American letter sized paper (8.5 x 11 inches), Milner's works speak to the familiarity of standard formatting and its automatic intelligibility. The ceramic tablets position themselves as documents, whether they be love letters or contracts, and create a new system of value through collected fragments. In his ongoing investigation into the poetics of archiving and arranging, potentially overlooked items are thoughtfully reappraised and granted new dignity.

**About Adam Milner**

Adam Milner draws upon personal exchanges with people, things and institutions, to examine systems of intimacy, value and power. Approaching materials and spaces that are often off limits, his works reveal boundaries and involve a process of negotiation and exchange; he has performed aboard a cruise ship hosted by the app Grindr, collaborated with material engineers at NASA to use rare lunar regolith simulant, intervened in the archives of Andy Warhol, and routinely drawn his boyfriend's blood.

He has exhibited at The Warhol, Museum of Contemporary Art Denver, Aspen Art Museum, Casa Maauad, Galería Mascota, Flux Factory, Florian Christopher Zurich, and David B. Smith Gallery. Milner received an MFA from Carnegie Mellon University (2017), is a recent participant of the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture (2018), and is currently a fellow with Black Cube Nomadic Museum. Milner lives and works in Brooklyn.

**About David B. Smith Gallery**

David B. Smith Gallery is committed to presenting intelligent and culturally relevant exhibitions in its Denver location, featuring the region's most important emerging talent alongside internationally recognized artists. Through its curatorial program, participation in art fairs, and extensive media coverage in publications such as *Art in America* and *ARTnews*, David B. Smith Gallery has cultivated a strong regional, national and international collector audience. *The New York Times* hailed the gallery as offering "an exciting contrast of cutting edge works" and *The Denver Post* declared that it is the "premiere commercial space" in Denver. The gallery also maintains an active publishing division, which produces exhibition catalogues and editions.