

## For Immediate Release

March 31, 2022

Clark College's Archer Gallery presents

### ***Wallowing***

a two-person exhibition by **Carissa Potter Carlson & Kate Pruitt**

Exhibition dates: April 19, 2022 - May 13, 2022

Virtual Opening Reception & Artist Talks: April 20, 12pm Pacific Time

Virtual Workshop: May 12, 12pm Pacific Time

- Virtual Opening Reception & Artist Talks and the Virtual Workshop will be held via Zoom at links provided at website below.
- To view the exhibition in-person, please see our website for viewing hours.
- Completed Clark College health screening questionnaire required for entry day of visit.

For more details, please visit: [www.archergallery.space](http://www.archergallery.space)

#### **Exhibition Statement:**

This April, artists and friends Carissa Potter and Kate Pruitt invite you to indulge in the mire. Their exhibition, *Wallowing*, presents a series of works made of longing, sadness, and confusion. Often we are taught not to linger in moments of grief: indulge too deeply in dark feelings and you may become trapped there forever. However, in coping with the recent churn of overwhelm and despair, both individual and collective, Potter and Pruitt have found that turning toward grief can be a way through.

The artworks in this show take on "muddiness" and the qualities of mud as a useful metaphor for coping with feelings of grief, loss, confusion, anger, and regret. Potter's multi-scale figurative paintings explore the longing for touch, comfort and safety, and Pruitt's papier-mâché sculptures combine abstract and figurative elements—human limbs, paws, anthropomorphized domestic objects—to capture moments of personal loss.

So much is broken and the trauma seems too much to bear sometimes, but transformation can sometimes hide in the depths of despair. In *Wallowing*, Kate and Carissa celebrate the act of sitting in the discomfort that life often brings: the beauty of being stuck, right here, together in the mud.

-Carissa Potter Carlson & Kate Pruitt

#### **Carissa Potter Carlson - Biography:**

Carissa Potter is an artist and mother investigating intimacy and what it means to be human in Oakland, California. She is a founding member of [Colpa Press](#), the founder of [People I've Loved](#), and co-founder of If You Were Here Now. Recent awards include 2021 50 Most Inspiring People by AdAge and 24 People Making the World A Better Place by Cosmopolitan. Spring 2022 she has work up at the CJM in San Francisco and is finishing her 3rd book with Penguin, How to Heal From Heart Break. Carissa is currently taking deep breaths and trying to believe in the possibilities of the future.

<https://www.carissapotter.com/>

#### **Kate Pruitt - Biography:**

Kate Pruitt is an artist working in ceramics, sculpture, and experiential situations. With vibrant materials like clay, pulp, breath, salve and skin, her work calls people in close, inviting them to explore the murky realms of embodiment, relational ethics, and responsible anthropomorphism. Pruitt received a BA in Art and Art History from Stanford University and an MFA in Studio Art from Mills College. She was the 2017 recipient of the Jay DeFeo Prize for her Mills thesis exhibition, "Touch Language", and has completed residencies at Vermont Studio Center, Wassaic Residency, and LPP+ Residency in San Francisco. She is also a co-founder of [Mutual Stores](#), a new studio collective in Oakland. Her work has been exhibited at venues throughout the Bay Area, including Underline Gallery, Royal Nonesuch Gallery, SF Art Book Fair, Blank-space Gallery, and Little Paper Planes.

<https://katepruitt.com/>



Image:

Carissa Potter Carlson, *Untitled Hold*, 18 x 24 inches, acrylic on Arches paper, 2022.

Please contact Michelle Ramin, Director of Archer Gallery, for inquiries.

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