

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Andy Moerlein: Ten Thousand Labors
December 14, 2023 – January 28, 2024

Opening Reception

Saturday, December 16, 2023, 2 – 5pm

Brief Artists' Talk at 3pm

SOWA First Friday Reception

January 5, 2024, 5 – 8:30pm

Closing Reception

Saturday, January 27, 2024, 2 – 5pm

Brief Artists' Talk at 3pm

**A Special Conversation with
Andy Moerlein and his Guest Artists**

Sunday, January 21, 2024, 3pm

Gallery Hours

Wednesday – Sunday, 11am – 5pm

Boston Sculptors Gallery presents *Andy Moerlein: Ten Thousand Labors*, on view December 14, 2023 – January 28, 2024. Offering new work mining the expressive qualities of the self as subject and object, the exhibition is a departure from the artist's recent fascination with Scholars Rocks and Bonsai. Moerlein introduces a series referencing the legacy of artists who objectify the self. He harnesses video, photography, and collaged images of himself to expose a frank vulnerability.

Working primarily as a sculptor, Moerlein is engaged in a perpetual physical dance with his media, which often requires significant strength and endurance. In *Ten Thousand Labors* he shares a personal view of the tolls and challenges of a sculptor's lifestyle. Moerlein explains further: "On a recent trip to Vienna I experienced in person the unsparing authenticity of Egon Schiele and his colleagues. These artists created enduring instances of the body as a medium of expression. Their approach to the self-portrait predestined many modern and contemporary artists. Today we are familiar with the work of Cindy Sherman and Francesca Woodman, as well as performance artists such as Valie Export and Alan Kaprow, all of whom have established the self-portrait as activism within the canon of art."

Ten Thousand Labors investigates the persistent challenges the working artist faces in the context of the moment we inhabit, and reflects on the vulnerability of aging. In these raw and deeply personal images, Moerlein explores the powershift occurring both within society and within the older adult male body, reflecting an optimism, resignation, and authenticity.

Moerlein has also invited five guest artists who he admires to create new work addressing their own vulnerabilities, fears, and concerns. Guest artists Jay Bordage, Donna Dodson, James Larson, Jameel Radcliffe, and Paul Weiner provide alternative windows into the narrative.

Andy Moerlein: Ten Thousand Labors, runs concurrently with *Larry Pollans: Jigsaw*.

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