

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Zoe Shepherd Friend: *Ataxophilia*

November 9 – December 11, 2022

Artist Talks

Saturday, November 19, 3pm

Reception to follow.

First Friday Reception

December 2, 5 – 8:30pm

Artist Meet & Greets

Nov 11th and 17th, 11am – 5pm

Gallery Hours

Wednesday – Sunday 11am – 5pm

Boston, MA – *Ataxophilia*, Zoë Friend's premiere solo exhibition at Boston Sculptors Gallery, will be on view November 9 to December 11, 2022. A play on the term ataxophobia, a clinical condition described as "a fear of clutter or messy surroundings," the exhibition features assemblage sculptural works exploring the fetishization of objects through the artist's baroque-inspired maximal aesthetic.

Western society defines us by our consumption, our belongings and now, very much by our waste. Focusing on the consumer sublime as well as examining the intersection of our relationship with nature and societal detritus, Friend presents highly ornate and sumptuous motifs juxtaposed with the mundane disposable materials from which they are made. Assembled from items such as plastic utensils, cheap costume jewelry, and fake fauna, the artist strips these elements of all familiar color cues, allowing the viewer to experience form before discerning the materials.

Friend has let this fear of things and her ever-evolving relationship with compulsion guide what she calls "an encapsulation of my own consumer anxieties," laid bare in the collection of over-embellished objects which tell the story of our own excesses.

Zoë Friend: *Ataxophilia* runs concurrently with Ellen Schön: *New Directions Home*.

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