



MATT LAMBERT ARTIST STATEMENT

Matt Lambert's work pushes the preconceptions and possibilities of jewelry and adornment as traditionally understood. Adornment has the ability to blur the fields of design, craft, fashion, and art—and through inhabiting queer and/or liminal spaces adornment has great strength. Lambert believes that this aspect has yet to be fully explored as a terroristic act towards Westernized institutions.

FUN & GAMES is a continuation of Lambert's research with the Thick Collection based in the Swedish Royal Armory Archive (Livrustkammaren) in Stockholm Sweden. This particular collection of texts is an international collection of texts and journals of "masculine activities" from the 1500s to early 1900s demonstrating rules and mappings of how masculine bodies should move through space and interact with objects. Lambert uses this as a starting point and begins to queer the archive and question the boundaries of participation within sport, war, fashion, craft, and appropriation.

Based in Detroit, Lambert holds an MFA in metalsmithing from Cranbrook Academy of Art with additional specific university training in craft skills, such as metalsmithing, ceramic, and fiber. Through apprenticeships Lambert has also studied semi-antique rug restoration and leather working. Lambert holds academic training in art history, psychology/human sexuality, and cultural studies from Wayne State University in Detroit, MI.

Lambert's work has been collected internationally and shown at venues including: Swedish Center for Architecture and Design (Stockholm, Sweden); Kunstnerforbundet (Oslo, Norway); the Craft Council of British Columbia Gallery (Vancouver, Canada); Handwerkskammer für München und Oberbayern (Munich, Germany); the Walker Arts Center (Minneapolis, Minnesota), and the Queer Culture Center (San Francisco, California). In 2017-2018 Lambert was the first international artist based in jewelry/metalsmithing to be invited as a resident at IASPIS the Swedish Arts Grants Committee's programme for visual artists and designers in Stockholm, Sweden.

The artist thanks the following people for their unstinting contributions to this new body of work:

Carolyn Catlos
Fiber artist

Brandon Michael Hrusovsky
Model

Andy Jackson
Photographer Assistant

Jacob Koestler (@american_spirit)
Photographer

Petr Kurecka (@petr_kurecka)
Petrkurecka.cz
Photographer

Phil Lambert
Installation expert

Kristina Sheufelt (@ksheufelt)
Kristinasheufelt.com
Sculptor

Adam Thomas with The Juice Box Studio (@thejuiceboxstudio)
Thejuicebox.co
Glass artist

Martin Talaga (@martin.talaga)
Choreographer and dancer

Edina Trsic
Model

Irene LaVon Walker (@irenelavonwalker)
Irenelavonwalker.com
Fiber artist