hatred 2

Matt DeLong *The Perforators* December 16 - 31, 2022 hatred 2 576 3rd Ave. #2L Brooklyn, NY 11215

Hatred 2 is pleased to inaugurate its space with an exhibition presenting recent work by Matt DeLong.

The television series *Arthur* (1994-2022) is somewhat synonymous with a certain brand of morality-inclined, public children's programming that developed in the final quarter of the 20th century. Its "blurry universalism," like many of the time, relies on its anthropomorphization of non-human beings: aardvarks, rabbits, dogs, bears, and monkeys, to name a few.

Only a decade earlier, Claude Levi-Strauss put forth some anthropomorphism. In his 1985 book *The Jealous Potter*, he describes a distant relative of the raccoon in Brazil: the kinkajou. Quoting Francis Huxley, he notes, "Brazilian peasants also fear the kinkajou, but for a different reason: 'Kinkajous, they say, are sodomites, and a man sleeping in the jungle should protect himself with a well-placed cork.' Thus the Kinkajou behaves sometimes as a perforated being (defecating, eating through his tails), sometimes as a perforator."

In DeLong's exhibition *The Perforators*, a selection of fabric cut-outs explore the recognizable silhouettes of *Arthur*'s particular anthropomorphization, making the potential for perforation literal against their plastic snaps, while playing against digital paintings of coffee rings, each functioning as an adjacent, lingering mark of a consumption and subsequent, diuretic induced excretion.

<u>Matt DeLong</u> (b. 1993, Silver Spring, Maryland) is an artist living and working in Baltimore, Maryland. He is co-director of the off-site curatorial project *Collision's Craft*. Matt Delong *The Perforators* Checklist



Perforator 1 Polyester and plastic snaps 2022



Perforator 2 Polyester and plastic snaps 2022



Coffee Rings 1-3 Whiteboard and adhesive inkjet 2022



Bound Flag Polyester and flag pole