

## Love Hurts, Yeah Yeah

A Valentine to the Funny and Twisted Side of Love

Exhibition dates: January 22–February 14, 2022

HEY CHECK THIS OUT GALLERY | [heycheckthisoutgallery.com](http://heycheckthisoutgallery.com)

Quality Mending | 329 Bowery, NYC (1-6pm daily)

Curated by Maureen Sullivan | Red Art Projects

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Original Art & Editions from:

Jean-Michel Basquiat, Noah Davies, Eric Doeringer, Corey Escoto, C. Finley, Scooter La Forge, Ghost of A Dream, Larry Krone, Carter Kustera\*, Sean Mellyn\*, moby\*, Maynard Monrow\*, Colin J. Radcliffe, Ted Riederer\*, Walter Robinson, David Shrigley, Guy Richards Smit, Betty Tompkins\*, Zou and Lou, and more (\*online exhibition)



**Love Hurts, Yeah Yeah** is a group exhibition offering an antidote, not to love and Valentine's Day itself, but to the schmaltzy, normative, one-note Hallmark messaging that's so dreaded this time of year - even Etsy sent an easy way to opt out. We're celebrating contemporary artists' brilliant, twisted, and irreverent take on the ups and downs of seeking, and living day-to-day with, the many splendored thing. Sincere yet irreverent humor is a connecting thread through the show with sentiments by turns sweet, stinging, and some even taken directly from cry-in-your-beer country and rock n'roll songs. **Love Hurts, Yeah Yeah**, opens all day Saturday, January 22 through February 14, 2022, in HEY CHECK THIS OUT GALLERY (inside Quality Mending Vintage Shop), with select works on view and more in the online exhibition [heycheckthisoutgallery.com](http://heycheckthisoutgallery.com).

Brother and sister artistic duo **Zou and Lou** (Jacques and Aurélie Bernard Wortsman) render Cupid falling down on the job in an all too familiar covid-style ennui: sunk into a Lazy-boy, bong and "Munchos" in hand, and bow and arrow at rest; there'll be no love connections forged that day. Celebrating saints and sinners, **Ghost of A Dream's** *From the Bottom of My Heart* collage, created from Las Vegas sex workers' business cards, is presented alongside **C. Finley's** vibrant orgasmic martyrdom of *Ecstasy of Santa Theresa*. Cartoon-style jokes and one-line stingers, that could easily replace hackneyed greeting cards, include: **Betty Tompkins** (*With Her You Never Know If you're going to Get a 'Fuck You' or a Chicken Dinner*), **Guy Richards Smit** (*You're more than just a good man, Tom. You're a viable alternative.*), **Carter Kustera's** neon sculpture (*I Lied. I Do Love You.*), and more by **Maynard Monrow**, **Noah Davies**, **Eric Doeringer** (Richard Prince Joke from the bootleg series) and **Sean Mellyn's** Snowman getting snipped.

**Colin J. Radcliffe's** brightly colored ceramics are wrapped around hookup and ghosting text messages in the form of sad-eyed big-penis figures (*You're Not DEAD But You're Dead To Me*), condoms and Grindr-lit phones. Beloved vices are honored by **Walter Robinson's** paintings of *French Fries (Saverin)* and femme fatales (*Angel*), as well as in **Larry Krone's** doily *Heart Medallion (Jack Daniel's)*. Inner monsters are revealed in the mirrored reflection of **moby's** photograph *Demons*, and revenge is the message in **Jean-Michel Basquiat's** *Evil Thoughts* throw.

As the exhibition is presented in a gallery inside a store, functional objects abound: **Corey Escoto's** bronze tissue box cover, etched with the saying *In My Arms Many Flowers*, is equipped with tissues to wipe away those tears; **Scooter La Forge's** hand-painted t-shirts address a range of our desires from *Sexy Ugly* to pleads to be loved. Larry Krone's double lamp illuminates contradictory messages sewn onto the shades with his hair (*You Never Had it so Good, I Never Had it so Bad.*), muscle shirt (*Don't Fall in Love With Me*), and *Bottom of the Bottle Sticker Set* - all capturing the power struggles of intimacy and providing a shot of empathy with which to drown your sorrows. Editions such as Ghost of A Dream's fabricated pencils, *You'll Always Be (No.2)*, and postcards and books by **David Shrigley** provide affordable dissing options.

The online video of **Ted Riederer's** *Drums and Roses*, references his live performance at the inaugural rendition of *Love Hurts*, 2015, at Geary Gallery. Using 100 long stem roses as drumsticks, the violence of the intense playing colors the room in a blanket of red rose petals. A many splendored thing indeed.

**About:**

**Maureen Sullivan** is an independent curator and writer, in addition to running the Art Communications and Strategic Planning company, Red Art Projects. Curatorial projects can be found [here](#).

**Hey Check This Out Gallery**, in the front area of The Quality Mending Vintage Shop in its new location on the Bowery, was founded by Oliver Harkness (Owner of Quality Mending) and Rich Jacobs (Artist and Curator) in 2020. Overall there is a focus on artists with a passion for music and musicians with a passion for art. Contributors to date include: Sam Prekop, Jah Wobble, Charlie Ahearn, David Pajo, Bobby Puleo, Kosmo Vinyl, Richard McGuire, Penelope Houston, Jeanette Beckman, Thomas Campbell and Jordin Isip. Opening late February, will be an exhibition by Tom Jarmusch in conjunction with a book of photography and other ephemera. In its previous location in Nolita, the *Quality Mending Art Wall* featured commissioned murals with artists John Lurie, Tim Kerr, Cynthia Connolly, Little Annie, Billy Childish, Jeanette Beckman, Horace Panter, Arturo Vega, and more.