



Ani Vegh, MA Fine Arts PERSONAL JESUS Installation



Sex and religion have always had a somewhat uneasy relationship. When the two intersect there is often controversy, heated debate, and/or scandal. If a debate is ever raised, it is never extended beyond the gay or straight paradigm. This suppression is heavily influenced by personal assumptions of what is morally acceptable and what is considered deviant. Religious prescripts, social environments and culture further add to the list of taboos.

My work aims to highlight a connection between human sexuality and religious suppression through vandalised Bible steel engravings (1860). A sculptural piece based on personal duality takes the centerpiece, questioning gender, religion, power and sexual kink. The candidness of the installation challenges the audience with its honesty, expecting to encounter a storm of both condemnation and acclaim. The viewers have to rethink their views on other people's sexuality as well as their own. This will force the audience to face difficult and uncomfortable content and shed light on the tangible roots of sexual diversity.

The variety of stories portrayed will attempt to open one's opinion to a broader context, where one story might just lead to a biased judgment. I aim to show the audience that sexuality beyond the frame of their own subjective experiences is perfectly acceptable and very human indeed.

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