



# Talking to Ourselves and Other Faggots

Corsin Billeter  
Leon Pozniakow

21 October – 12 November 2022

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21 October – 12 November 2022  
Opening: Thursday 20 October 6–8pm

“EVEN WEAK LINKS ARE LINKS IN THE CHAIN”  
*Faggots and Their Friends Between the Revolutions*  
Larry Mitchell

*Talking to Ourselves and Other Faggots* rests on the foundation of a loving friendship and long-standing dialogue between the artists and their work. The two-person exhibition is shaped around an eponymous chain work crafted in collaboration. Over the span of more than a year the artists sat opposite each other twice a week connecting an ever-growing chain; the repetitive labor of shaping links and soldering them one to another produced stability and comfort in a time defined by disconnection and bleak prospects for the future. The making of *Talking to Ourselves and Other Faggots* provided discussion, gossip, consolation, laughter, rumination, critique and support and became an act of connectivity and of continuity.

The collaborative chain serves as a device linking individual works by Pozniakow and Billeter. Starting from autobiographic material and looking at reminiscence, the shaping of identity, love, sex and longings, both artists' practices use modes of enshrining memory. In *TTOAOF* these modes result in keepsakes that take the form of ablated glass drawings, chain mail, pressed flowers, wire drawing in fused glass, digital paintings fired on vitreous enamel and watercolours encased in cast objects.

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Corsin Billeter (b. 1991, Switzerland) lives and works in London. He holds an MA in Painting from the Royal College of Art (2019) and studied Fine Arts at the Zürcher Hochschule der Künste and the School of Visual Art, NY. Shaped around quotidian autobiographical scenes as well as tropes from gay culture he employs digital painting, jewellery techniques and found objects to look at gay love, relation-, friend-and other -ships. In 2019 he won the Valerie Beston Artists' Trust award leading to his solo show *New Manifestations of Declarations of Love Across the Ocean through Records of a Place of Reminiscence* at Ordovas (London) in 2020. He has been part of group exhibitions in London, Zürich, New York and Prague.

Leon Pozniakow (b. 1982, UK) is a British artist living and working in London. He has an MA in painting from the Royal College of Art (2020) and a post graduate diploma from the Royal Drawing School (2013). Through a multidisciplinary practice of drawing, metalwork, casting and painting he examines homosexual alterity, assimilation, sentimentalism and tenderness. Previous exhibitions include: *The Male Gaze: from Larry Stanton to Now*, The Artist Room Gallery (London), *Cacotopia*, Annka Kultys Gallery (London), *Under your Spell*, Collective Ending (London), *Bloomberg New Contemporaries 2021*, South London Gallery (London), *Triggered Economics or How to Commit to The Inevitable*, JPAA (London), *London Grads Now*, Saatchi Gallery (London).

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