



**Samantha Wickman: MATCHES IN THE DARK**

**LaunchPad Gallery**

July 7 – August 8, 2021

**Opening Reception**

Sunday, July 11, 3 – 5pm

**SOWA First Friday Reception**

August 6, 5 – 8:30pm

**Gallery Hours**

Wed. – Sun. 11am – 5pm & by appointment

Samantha Wickman's *Matches in the Dark* is a collection of figurative porcelain sculpture that draws heavily from personal experience. The sculptures are a sustained meditation on what happens to people when they fall from the realm of the living into the kingdom of the sick by way of chronic pain and illness. Lacking means of ascent, the shadow beings depicted in these pieces float unhinged from the earthly world, desperately creating an existence from the flotsam and jetsam of ruin and disease. They exist, in all their flaws, lighting matches in a sea of darkness, proof that life in the kingdom of the sick exists, and that there is both beauty and meaning amidst the chaos.

Samantha Wickman grew up in Massachusetts. She studied ceramics and English literature at Connecticut College and graduated with a BA in 2008, going on to earn a Masters in Library Science from Simmons College in 2013. Wickman studied ceramics at the Glasgow School of Art in Scotland and later moved to the Boston area and began taking classes and workshops at Mudflat Studio in Somerville. Wickman is now an active member of the Mudflat community, participating in group shows and sales throughout the year, and recently started showing her sculptural work in group shows across the country.

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