

Ray Madrigal: *I Am A Thing That Holds Something Else* January 17 – February 28, 2025

Opening Reception: Friday, January 17, 6-9pm Open Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, Noon - 4pm and by appointment ACRE Projects, 2921 N. Clark St. Chicago, IL 60657

ACRE Projects is pleased to kick off our 2025 exhibition season with Ray Madrigal's solo exhibition, *I Am A Thing That Holds Something Else*.

Humans, half liquid, are good at assuming the form of the containers we occupy. The world we've built exerts its influence over us just as we have in constructing it – we perfect, adjust, corrode, and inherit each other.

In this feedback loop of material to meaning, we also find ourselves inextricably linked to other people. When we touch the things that sustain us, we inadvertently tug at the endless strands of humans who made these objects possible.

I Am A Thing That Holds Something Else is a body of work that attempts to articulate this nested nature of our shared reality. The objects within encourage a slower study of the quick little details we move amongst daily – they are a bid for closer scrutiny of the worldly experiences that hold us in, hold us up, and hold us back.

Under this concentrated gaze, ours is a world that can be redesigned with softer intent.

Made again, even in very small ways, to better hold us and our broad imaginings.

We invite you to join us for the opening reception of Ray Madrigal: *I Am A Thing That Holds Something Else* on Friday, January 17 from 6-9pm or during gallery open hours on Mondays and Wednesdays from 12-4pm and by appointment.

Ray Madrigal (b.1999, Sacramento, CA) is a third generation Chicanx Lesbian and maker. Their work is concerned with worldly details, and how elements of the everyday might be studied to the benefit of vibrant Queer survival. As a descendant of immigrant farm laborers, Madrigal strives to take nothing for granted in an increasingly unlikely life. They hold a BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and were named Home Depot Associate of the Month at store #6675 from October 2020 through February 2021. Their work has been featured by the Corning Museum of Glass in New York, the National Museum of Mexican Art in Chicago, and the Brownsville Museum of Fine Art in Texas. They currently live, work, and play in Chicago, IL.



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ACRE Projects is on the ground level with a 4-inch step to enter the building. The bathroom is wheelchair accessible. Masks are not required to enter the space but we do have masks available upon request. For additional information, please contact this event's accessibility coordinator Lauren Leving at exhibitions@acreresidency.org.