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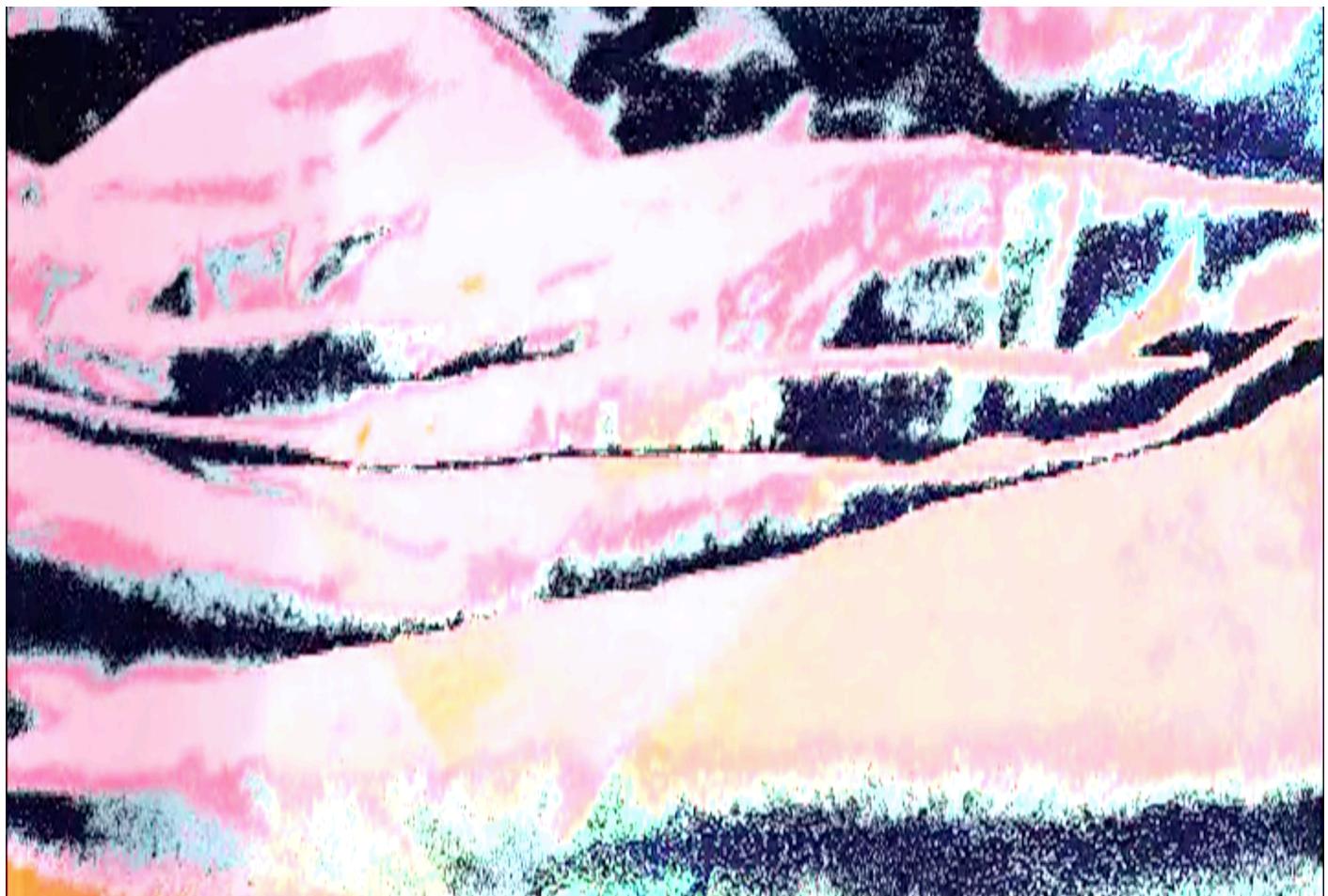
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Supporting Texts : Fall 2018 Final



soft
throws

Synopsis

soft throws is a 4 channel video installation piece with 4 CRT's placed around a reflective duvet on the ground. There is a pastel glitch video of sheets on a bed on each of the monitors which accompany a conversation regarding one's relationship to the bed. The videos reflect off of the duvet on the ground and the audio frames the viewer in the middle of the bed.

Artist Biography

Alex Apostolidis makes prints, photographs and videos that demonstrate a playful approach to emotional vulnerability and absurdism. Their work deals with materiality, environment and identity in a diaristic setting, exploring hapticness as a way to communicate delicate feelings. They picked up photography at an early age, stealing their family's camera during vacation. In 2011, Alex's work was displayed in Scotiabank's Contact Digital Photography Exhibition for TDSB students. This interest in the digital image quickly expanded to exploring video as a medium. In 2015, Alex published their first zine and is now on their eighth publication. Alex grew up in Toronto, Ontario and is currently living in Montreal, Quebec while they work on their BFA at Concordia University.

Artist Statement

Everyone experiences periods of their life where living their bed may be the most daunting activity whilst going to bed is also an extreme challenge. Stress-induced periods of tension with the bed can create betrayal from the comfort we normally associate with our beds. Inspired by Tracey Emin's sculpture, My Bed (1998), soft throws discusses one's relationship with the bed through a dialogue mainly consisting of questions and answers. This piece developed out of my visual interest in sheets and creases in textiles in conjunction with my unstable relationship towards my bed.

soft throws creates a spatial representation of a double bed by framing a reflective duvet with 4 CRT's on the ground. One headboard, a footboard and two monitors on the left and right side that present the people in the bed. The display of the installation for soft throws is inspired by Diane Thater's piece shimmer (1997) which involves 2 CRT's placed on their sides with the textural video reflecting off the concrete floor. The glitchy bright coloured images are reflecting off the emergency blanket creating more coloured light movement that is very textural and chaotic. To get the full experience of the piece the viewer is prompted to enter the bed via a small sign that asks them to remove their shoes. There, they can hear the conversation from both ends while atmospheric drones and sheets rustle in the background.

The viewer is put in question about where they are and how they treat their own bed as one voice asks and the other side answers.

The exploration of glitch aesthetic in soft throws started with my xerox wall installation work which focused on images of paper where the materiality was emphasized through the manipulation by the scanner.

This translated to video by shooting the way light emphasizes the shapes and folds found in blankets and sheets in my bed with a Mini DV video camera. After capturing glitch effects are created by manipulating the way different layers of video interact with one another.

soft throws is not supposed to necessarily replicate the comfort received from bed but rather expose the conflict with the bed as it can be a place of comfort but also one of recluse or capture.



example of xerox print used for xerox wall installation