

Kess

In *On Being Trans\**, ceramic sculpture and sound convey the lives and experiences of transgender people. This multi-sensorial work explores personal, observed, and learned experiences and emphasizes the importance of representation, experimentation, and resistance. I focus on how humans and their bodies are affected by trauma, and through that, I represent and therefore normalize how different bodies look. I create this work to share my own understanding of the world around me and to evoke in others similar emotions to the ones I feel. I treat my work, themes, and models with the utmost care, while highlighting stories of pain, struggle, security, and joy. This work draws attention to aspects of society that are historically excluded from traditional art and popular culture. It critiques the social constructs of gender norms, represents those who have been systematically excluded, and challenges our ingrained biases.

*On Being Trans\**, 2021-2022

Ceramic, underglaze, glaze, sound loop, transducers, amplifiers, recorders, wires; laminated paper, ink, cardboard, cloth, embroidery floss, glue  
Dimensions variable

Image: *On Being Trans\** (detail)