Modern Fuel Artist-Run Centre is a non-profit organization facilitating the presentation, interpretation, and production of contemporary visual, time-based and interdisciplinary arts. Modern Fuel aims to meet the professional development needs of emerging and mid-career local, national and international artists, from diverse cultural communities, through exhibition, discussion, and mentorship opportunities. Modern Fuel supports innovation and experimentation and is committed to the education of interested publics and the diversification of its audiences. As an advocate for contemporary art, as well as for artists' rights, we pay professional fees to artists in accordance with the CARFAC fee schedule.

Modern Fuel is situated on the unceded ancestral territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabeg peoples. We acknowledge the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabeg peoples as the past, present, and future caretakers of this land. We also recognize the Métis peoples and other nations from across Turtle Island who have called Katarokwi / Kingston home for generations upon generations. We are grateful to be able to live, learn and make art on this land and be in such close proximity to the waters of the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario. To acknowledge this traditional territory and waterways is to recognize this city and country's longer history predating confederation and the work that must still be done in decolonizing our spaces and relations. We at Modern Fuel strive towards respectful relationships with all of our communities in hopes of walking a good path together.

We at Modern Fuel want to state unequivocally that Black lives matter, Indigenous lives matter, and that the lives of People of Colour matter. Modern Fuel strives to ensure that members and visitors feel safe and welcome in our space and at our events. We do not tolerate discrimination, harassment, or violence including but not limited to ableism; ageism; homophobia and transphobia; misogyny; racism and white supremacy. It is also important to us that Modern Fuel not only continues to present works and programs that support Black and Indigenous artists, members and visitors, but invests in the work of becoming an inclusive, anti-racist organization. We feel it is only then that Modern Fuel can advocate for artists and foster community with care and respect.

Modern Fuel is open Tuesday to Saturday 12PM to 5PM. We're located in the Tett Centre for Creativity and Learning, Unit #305 on 307 King Street West, Kingston, ON. Stop by for a visit or stay up to date online at modernfuel.org.

#### Thank you to our major funders:











# **SLOW SHADOW**

# Nic Wilson

State of Flux Gallery January 21 2023 to March 11 2023



#### **About Nic Wilson**

Nic Wilson (he/they) is an artist and writer who was born in the Wolastoqiyik territory also known as Fredericton, NB in 1988. He graduated with a BFA from Mount Allison University, Mi'kmaq territory, in 2012, and an MFA from the University of Regina, Treaty Four Territory, in 2019 where he was a SSHRC graduate fellow. In 2021 they were long listed for the Sobey Art Award as a representative of the Prairies and the North. They have shown work across Canada and in Italy, including projects with the Remai Modern in Saskatoon, the Art Gallery of Regina, G44 in Toronto, Art Souterrain in Montreal, and International Performance Art Week in Venice.

Fluent across media, Wilson creates videos, performances and artist books, and writes essays and art criticism. Their work often engages time, queer lineage, decay, and the distance between art practice and literature. Their writing has appeared in publications such as BlackFlash Magazine, PUBLIC, Peripheral Review, NORK, Syphon, and Border Crossings.

### About Slow Shadow

Throughout the last couple of years, my practice has been vexed by questions of grief and mourning. Who do I mourn for? How do I do it and when? What is an appropriate and acceptable act of mourning? The work in this exhibition traces a few of these instances. They are not all acts of veneration but acknowledge a passing—of an idea or a person or a way of being. Some are references to other artists who I consider part of my queer lineage and others refer to more biological forms of inheritance but I don't draw a sharp distinction between them. A self is a strange mingling of multiplication and subtraction.

The work in *Slow Shadow* contemplates memorials and acts of remembrance. Through a constellation of texts, images, and objects I examine different materials associated with monumentation like marble, flowers, candles, and celebrity death merchandise. These objects are a record of duration and change. Some are solemn, some are pathetic, some are opportunistic, and others are failures but each one is an attempt to track the complex ways that people and ideas dwindle and endure through the people left in their wake.







Top Left: *Untitled (after Feher)*, 2022, glitter on "Cherry Blossom" box, 2.5" x 3.5" x 3.5". Bottom Left: *Long Term Pillow II (after Feher)*, 2019/2022, vinyl print, 36" x 48". Right: *David (still)*. 2022. digital video. 1:15:00.

## **Artist Statement**

My practice considers the relationship between individual, subjective experience and communal consciousness across Queer time. I think about the ways that some of the most small, internal experiences like pain and desire create bonds of understanding. When I make work, I am attempting to circumvent the cultural understandings that leave me marooned in the present as an individual person, when I know intrinsically that I am a porous being who is constantly donning and shedding parts of other people. I use drawing, writing, video, performance, and photography to think about the ways that each person is an ecosystem of other people. I explore quotation and re- making as an embodied practice of connection that crosses the seemingly impenetrable boundary between life and death. Enacting these relationships to the queer past is one of the ways my practice resists the dominance of Eurocentric, cis- heteropatriarchal systems of inheritance.