GAYLETTER

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS OF YOUR LIFE. WE'RE GONNA GIVE IT TO YOU.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2018, LETTER 471

ANY DAY

DO: EDIBLES

Gummies, Peppermints, Brownies... edibles come in all kinds of form now. They even get delivered to your doorstep or anywhere you are. Point is, we're in the age of eating weed and damn, it's great! Recently our office is super into with edibles. After a friend gifted us a few sour patches, we had two each and our evening was perfect. If you've never watched America's Next Top Model on an edible — we can highly recommend it. You can seriously watch any trash show on an edible and feel totally normal. The edibles take whatever ridiculous amount of stupidity you're watching and transform it into hilaaaaarious, glorious TV. It's perfect for watching The Great British Baking Show. It's just the right speed. We recommend you start slow with your edibles, eat one and see how it feels. No two edibles are ever created equal. In the winter it can be kind of annoying to go out, especially on Fridays after you've had a grueling ass week. This is another reason why we're recommending edibles, because the high is not like a face-plant, it's more post-coital, like being tucked into bed with a beautiful Matteo blanket. It's even better when you have rice and dumplings from Nom Wah next to your head. Oh, add a beautiful Montepulciano into the mix too. Duh! One thing to note is that the dosage on the edibles you're getting lately aren't like the pot brownies you bought from Josh Wheeler in high school. We've been schooling life on at least two each, FYI. Even a friend's mom got into the mix while she finished her martini at Le Turtle — she giggled all the way back to her hotel. We giggled all the way to our beds and woke up feeling fucking correct! Happy dosing. *–GAYLETTER*

WHEREVER YOU GET YOUR ORGANIC FREE-RANGE GREENS.

ANY DAY

ART: LUKE SMALLEY (1955-2009) - EXERCISE AT HOME

It has been 10 years since **Luke Smalley** created this body of work, and **ClampArt** is celebrating the artists' latest exhibition titled "Luke Smalley (1955-2009) | Exercise at Home" opening on Thursday, November 29. Luke left behind an amazing oeuvre of photographic media before his early passing at the age of 53. I have been a huge fan of Luke's work since I discovered some of his photos on Tumblr years ago, and I almost lost my mind when I saw his book "Gymnasium" back in 2004. Luke's work has been the inspiration of many fashion photoshoots. Often, I'll see a clear reference to his imagery and give him credit in my mind. In fact, his photos have been on a few of GAYLETTER's mood boards over the years. His work is so timeless and elegant; it keeps me looking back again and again. *"Exercise at Home"* premiered in exhibitions on both the East and West Coasts in 2008, coinciding with the release of a second Twin Palms publication — the artist's third book. *"It followed "Gymnasium" in its themes of "adolescent growing pains acted out under the guise of earnest athleticism."* For a preview of some of the work that will be on display at the exhibition, go to GAYLETTER.com. *–ABI*

FREE, 6:00PM-9:00PM, CLAMPART, 247 W 29TH ST. NEW YORK, NY.

FRIDAY 30

EVENT: BECOMING QUEER: WARHOL IN THE 1950'S AND JERETT ROBERT AUSTIN'S CAMILLE

If you were as intrigued by the queer overtones in the majority of **Warhol**'s work at the **Whitney**'s newest exhibition 'Andy Warhol - A to B and Back Again' then you'll be happy to hear about an upcoming gallery talk on that exact subject and more. Art historians **Nina Schleif** and **Trevor Fairbrother** will be discussing Warhol's representations of homoeroticism on the third floor of the Whitney in the **Susan** and **John Hess** Family Gallery and Theater. **Schleif** is a German art historian who wrote 'Drag and Draw Andy Warhol: The Unknown Fifties' and Fairbrother is an independent curator who's written extensively on Andy Warhol. The Whitney states that the talk will mainly cover, "Warhol's depictions of queer desire, his collaborations with the photography Otto Fenn, and the social milieu of New York's gay subculture during the McCarthy-era." The talk will also be accompanied by a screening of **Jerett Robert Austin**'s **Camille**, "a drag parody of the 1936 **George Cukor** classic film starring **Robert Taylor** and **Greta Garbo**." The film pairs well with Warhol's work being that it's another influential depiction of gay subculture during McCarthyism when homosexuality and drag was outlawed. *–LUCA*

$10-$12, 6:30PM, WHITNEY MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART, 99 GANSEVOORT ST. NY, NY.

SATURDAY 1

EVENT: WORLD AIDS DAY - INTERACTIVE ART EXPERIENCE WITH JENNY HOLZER

This Saturday is World AIDS day, and as much as we all like to pretend PrEP has solved everything AIDS is still an issue, especially for those in developing countries where access to medicine is a little harder to find. On Saturday afternoon we suggest you pick up a coffee and make your way to *"**#LightTheFight** for an interactive **World AIDS Day** art experience created in collaboration with world-renowned artist **Jenny Holzer**. The event will kick off with a ceremony and performance at the Memorial beginning at dusk (4:30 PM). The event will include a poetry reading from Jericho Brown of the Poetry Society of America, remarks from Speaker of the New York City Council Corey Johnson, a performance by the West Village Chorale and an interactive lighting ceremony."* Right after the ceremony something truly cool is going to happen. *"A fleet of five trucks emblazoned with LED signs will begin a journey through the city displaying a series of quotes that convey the impact, history, and ongoing battle against the AIDS epidemic worldwide. Selected and presented by Holzer, the writings by poets, activists, artists, educators, and people living with HIV and AIDS span a range of emotions from sorrow and fury to endurance and transcendence."* The trucks are going to drive through the city but we'll slow down and spend some time at lingering various historically significant sites, like **The LGBT Community Center**, the **Whitney Museum**, the **SVA Theater** and **Times Square**. This is a super cool, once-in-a-lifetime event that you do not, I repeat NOT want to miss. *–TOM*

FREE, 4:30PM, NYC AIDS MEMORIAL PARK, CRN WEST 12TH AND GREENWICH AVE. NEW YORK, NY.

SUNDAY 2

ART: ROSE TINTED - JUSTIN LIAM O'BRIEN & CELESTE RAPONE

Figurative painting has come quite far. For the sake of time, I won't dive into art history, but the times they are a changin'! **Monya Rowe** is the kind of gallerist who has helped usher in emerging/establishing careers for such wonderful painters like **Angela Dufresne** and **Louis Fratino**. For her latest, Rowe picked up Queens-born Justin **Liam O'Brien** and Chicago-based **Celeste Rapone**, both oil painters whose figuration uphold the conventional but carry on into the new normal. O'Brien softens his nameless, unspecified males with an earthy oil palette. Pulling inspiration from Grindr, Tinder and other Apps, O'Brien *"examines the psychological oversimplified social-sexual environment queer people currently inhabit."* And, while yes, O'Brien's paintings explore the seriously tender side of the gay male sexuality, I also just have to say these paintings are just so sweet. Rapone is a bit more heavy handed, but I'm certainly not mad. Her languid figures cast aside O'Brien's composure for innate discord. Her canvases challenge *"the boundaries between abstraction and figuration within a psychological space that hints at discomfort and absurdity. [She] depicts figures engaging in some sort of newfound amateur endeavor, ranging from sports to mundane tasks."* I like that one of her character's has a size tag stuck to their ass. The galleries in the flower district, which I feel compelled to add because I love it there, but "Rose-Tinted" is inspired by **Jean Baudrillard**'s Simulations the section Rose-Coloured Resurrection. It's essentially a digression on trying, and in such heedy times, it's a wonder we are all trying anything at all. But in times of cultural dissonance, we look to art. Has it failed us yet? Open Nov. 29-Jan.5! *–CHRIS*

FREE, TUES-SAT. 12:00PM-6:00PM, MONYA ROWE GALLERY, 224 W. 30TH ST. #1005, NY, NY.

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