

DAVIDSON

JOE RUDKO

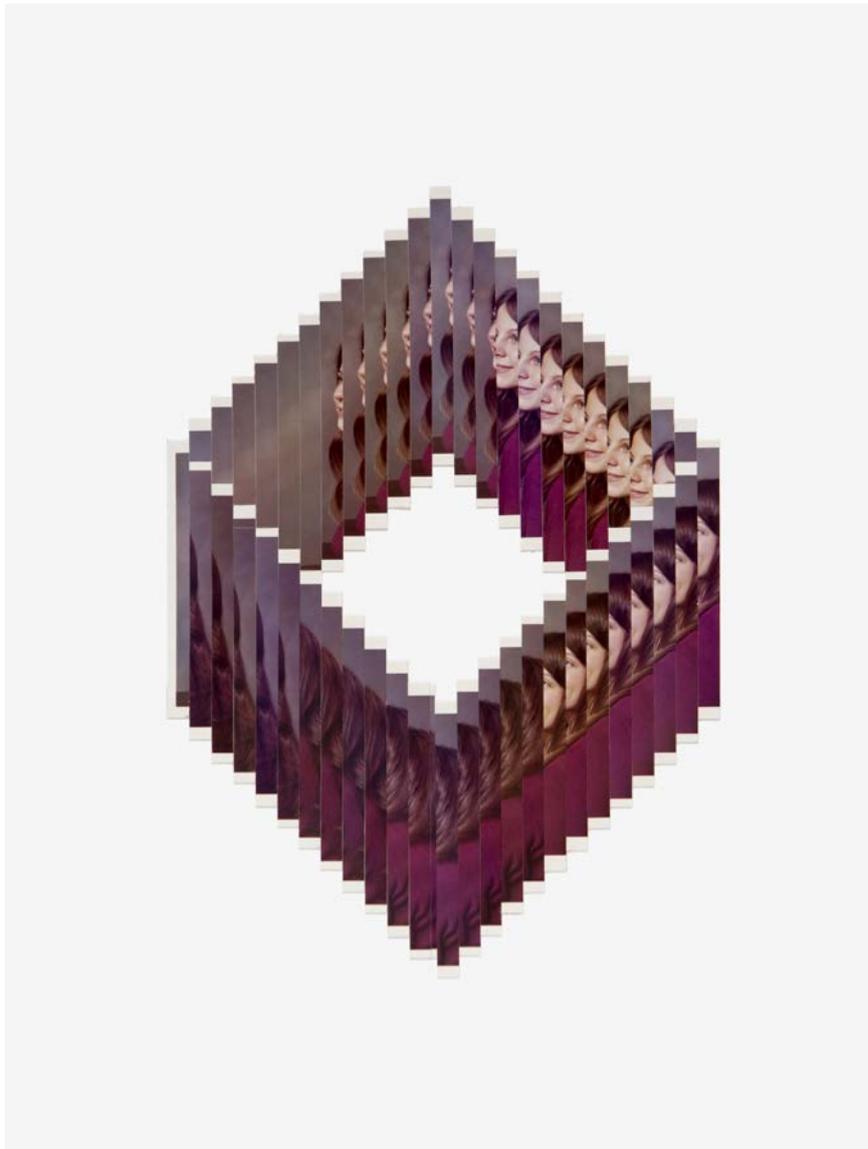
PROCESSING

Davidson Gallery is pleased to present *Processing*, an exhibition of new works by Joe Rudko. Rudko's photographic sensibilities extend past his training in the medium into the realms of sculpture, collage, and painting. The title of the exhibition is an obvious nod to the procedure of creating traditional photography, but has a manifold meaning - virtually all of the works in the show were created in 2020, a year of social and economic upheaval, and a worldwide pandemic.

As such, *Processing* also refers to the ways and means by which human beings navigate and contend with our current situation, and current events. It is also a term that addresses how we, as viewers, perceive art and digest what we see. This is especially true with Rudko's work - his disassembly and reassembly of vintage and found photographs reimagines what it means to capture and create images, much as photography in its earliest days upended how people perceived painting and other traditional representative art.

Many of the works in the exhibition are made up of vintage photographic duplicates, repurposed, reconfigured, and reimagined to produce works that are not quite figurative nor abstract. In many cases, they clearly depict people or body parts, but have been rearranged to appear as if in mid-transformation, metamorphosing into a wholly discrete new form. Still others use the color or shape of the original photographs to construct some new, previously unforeseen shape, reconsidering (and at times subverting) the original photographer's intent. For example, the work *Square Knot* creates counterposed gradients of colors intertwining in reference to the undeniable link between a collective past, the not-so-distant past, and the present moment.

Joe Rudko is a graduate of Western Washington University and has shown in both solo and group exhibitions throughout the Northwest including PDX Contemporary Art (Portland, OR), Roq La Rue (Seattle, WA), LxWxH (Seattle, WA), Photo Center Northwest (Seattle, WA), Whatcom Museum of Art (Bellingham, WA), and Greg Kucera Gallery (Seattle, WA), as well as Von Lintel Gallery (Los Angeles, CA). He has been the recipient of the Future List Award and two Art Walk Awards from City Arts Magazine as well as the Vermont Studio Center Fellowship Award. His work was featured on the cover of indie rock band Death Cab for Cutie's 2015 album *Kintsugi* and is included in the collections of the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Portland Art Museum, Fidelity Investments, and the private collections of Dorothy Lemelson, James and Susan Winkler, and Driek Zirinsky. Rudko lives and works in Seattle, WA. This is his second solo exhibition with Davidson Gallery.



Joe RUDKO

BOUNDARY, 2020

Found photographs on paper

15 x 11 1/4 in.

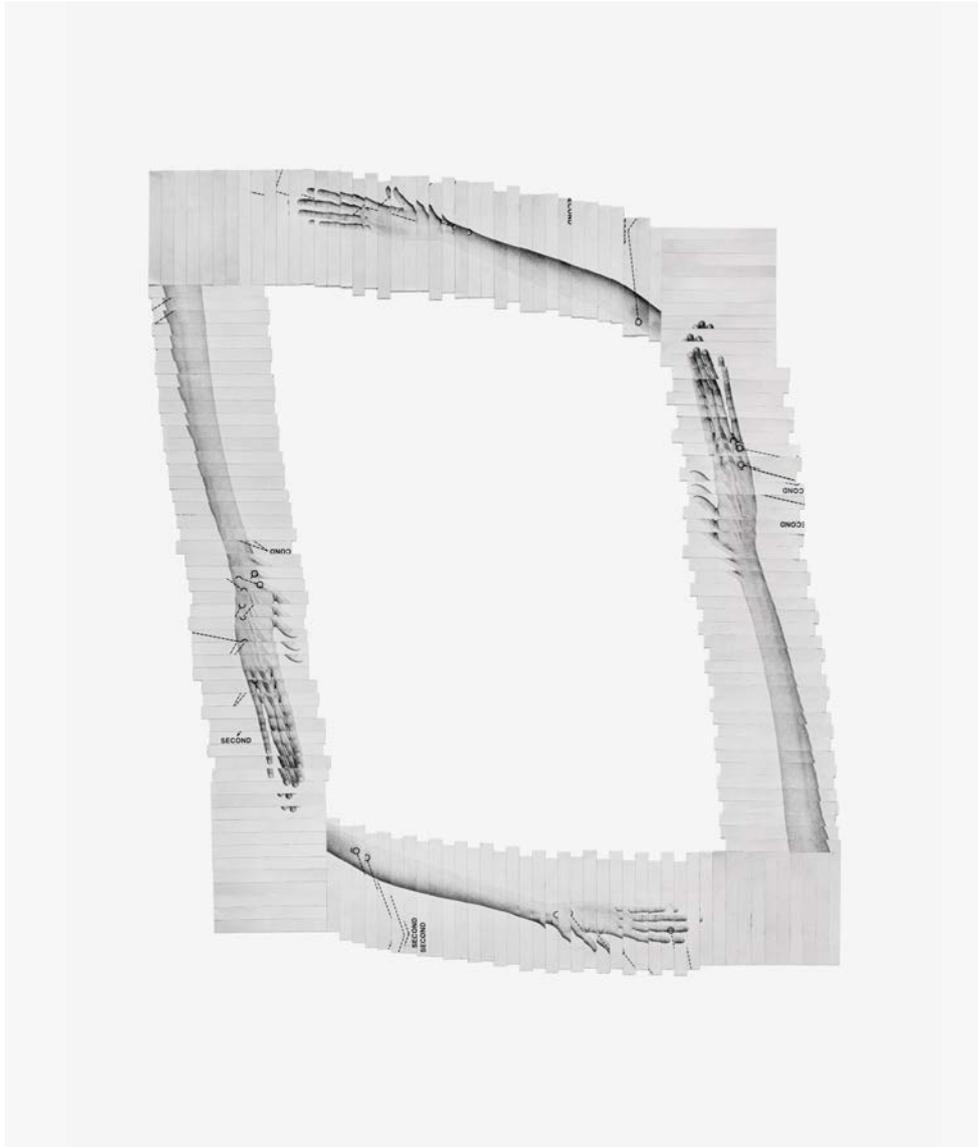


Joe RUDKO

BRIDGE, 2020

Found photographs on paper

50 x 38 in.



Joe RUDKO

CIRCLE OF TOUCH, 2020

Found bookplate on paper

22 1/2 x 18 3/4 in.

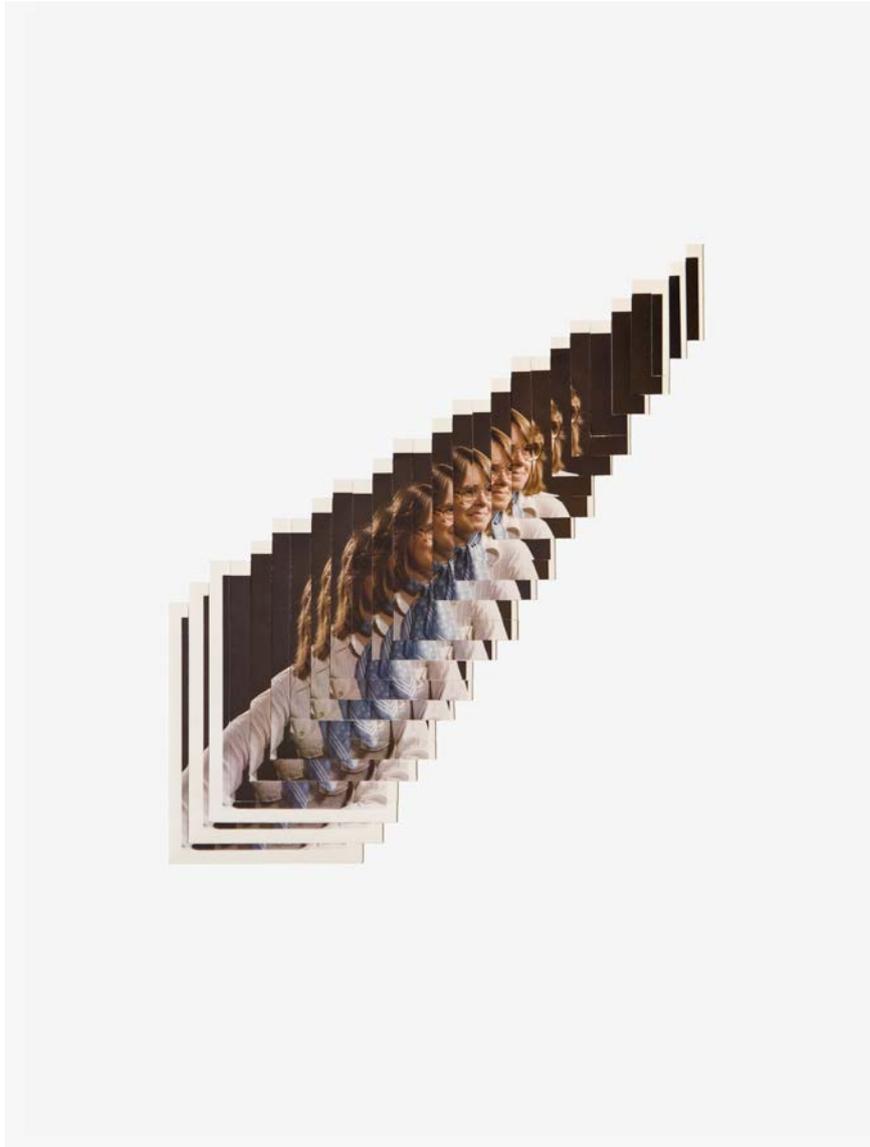


Joe RUDKO

COLOR CHART, 2020

Found photographs on paper

40 x 51 1/2 in.

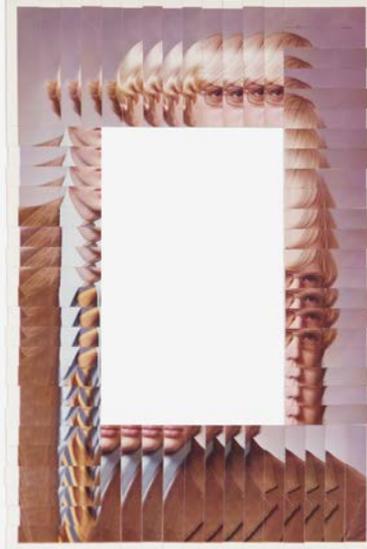


Joe RUDKO

DISTANT THOUGHT, 2020

Found photographs on paper

15 x 11 1/4 in.



Joe RUDKO

INNER SPACE, 2020

Found photographs on paper

15 x 11 1/4 in.



Joe RUDKO

INTERLACE, 2020

Found photographs on paper

51 1/2 x 40 in.

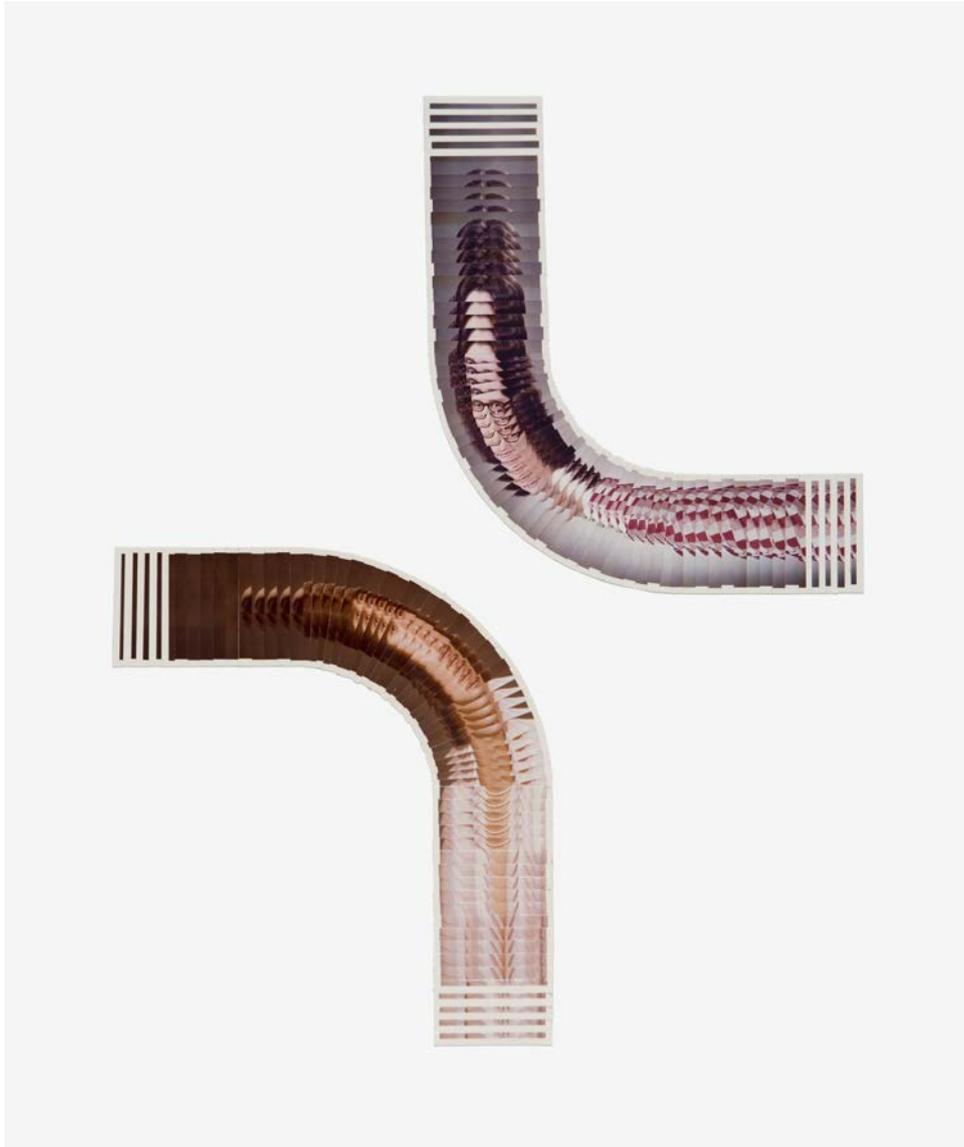


Joe RUDKO

LEGS, 2020

Found bookplate on paper

30 x 22 1/2 in.



Joe RUDKO

SAFE DISTANCE, 2020

Found photographs on paper

22 x 18 3/4 in.

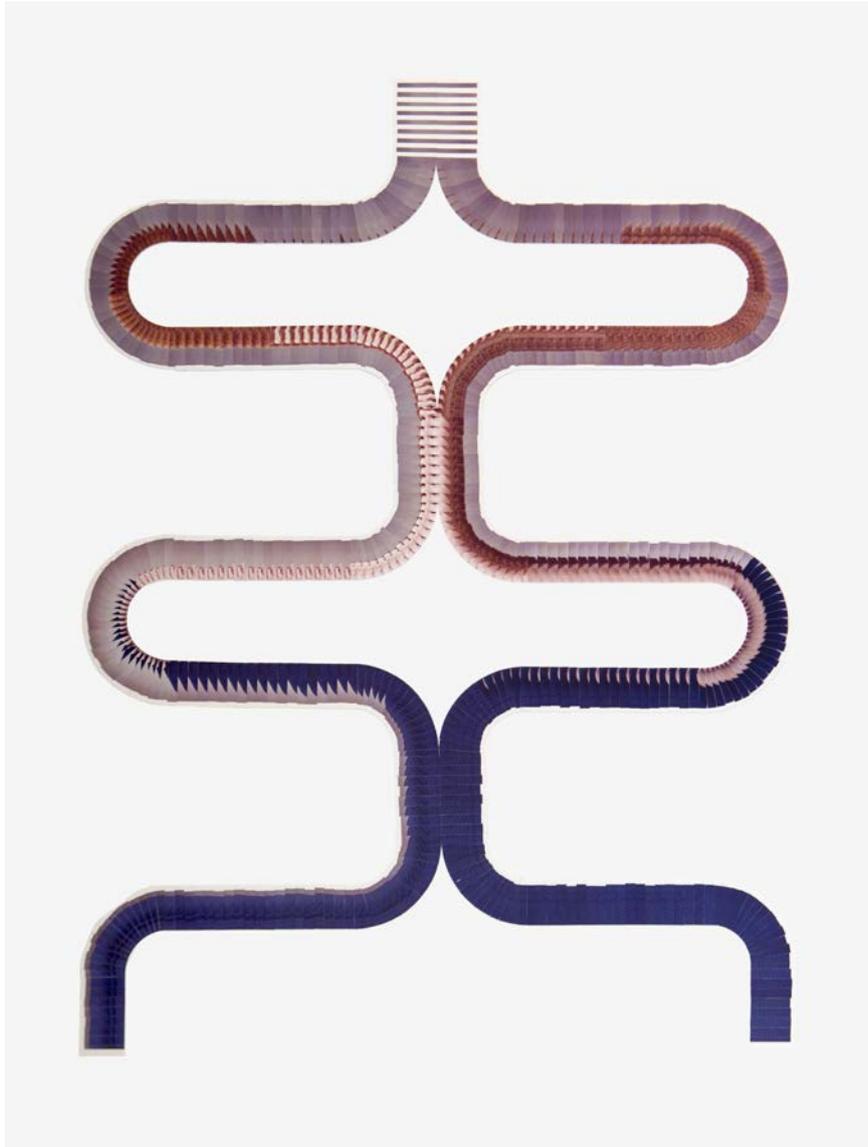


Joe RUDKO

SCROLLING PORTRAIT, 2020

Found photographs on paper

33 3/4 x 2 1/4 in.



Joe RUDKO

SELF IMAGE, 2020

Found photographs on paper

30 x 22 1/2 in.

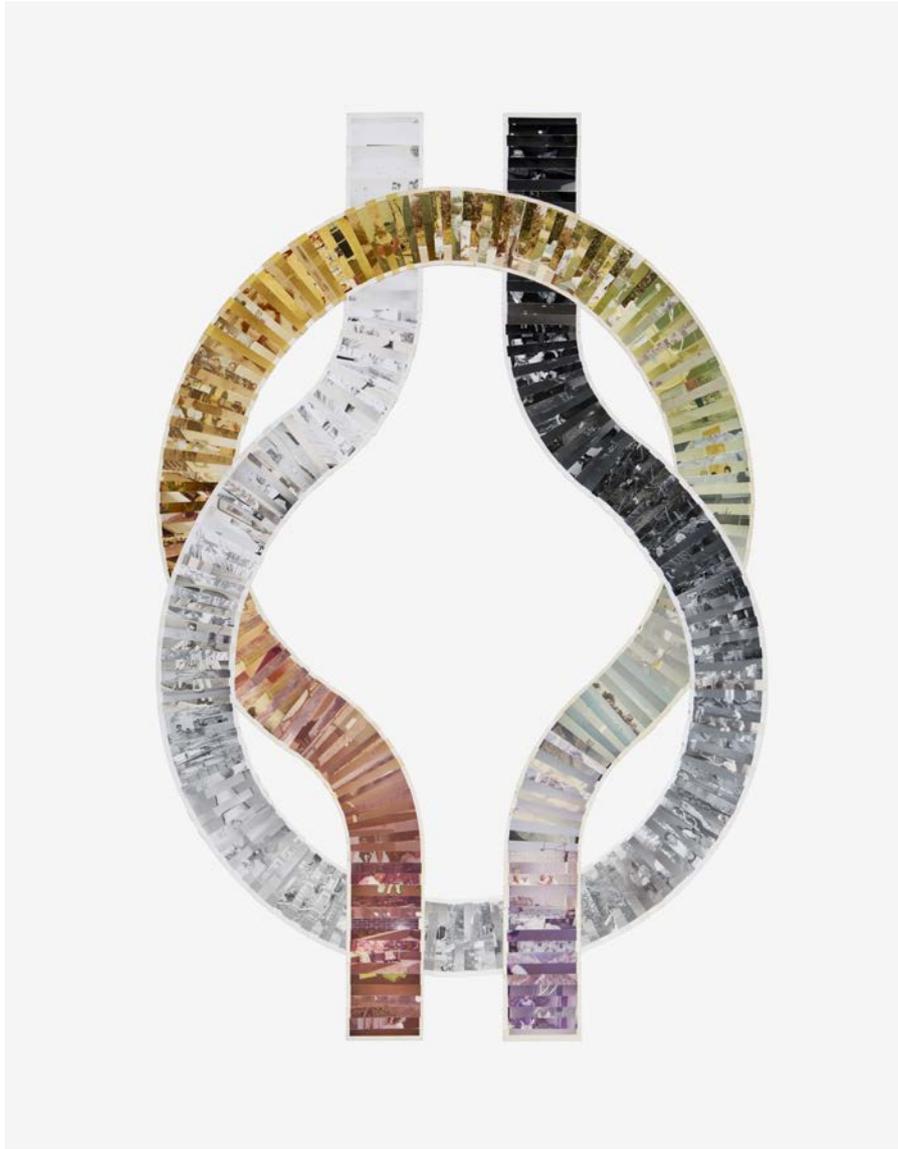


Joe RUDKO

SPECTRUM, 2020

Found photographs on paper

11 1/4 x 15 in.



Joe RUDKO

SQUARE KNOT, 2020

Found photographs on paper

51 1/2 x 40 in.