

God wears himself out through the infinite thickness of time and space in order to reach the soul and to captivate it. If it allows a pure and utter consent (though brief as a lightning flash) to be torn from it, then God conquers that soul. And when it has become entirely his he abandons it. He leaves it completely alone and it has in its turn, but gropingly, to cross the infinite thickness of time and space in search of him whom it loves. It is thus that the soul, starting from the opposite end, makes the same journey that God made towards it.^{1→}

Simone Weil

In *Layman*, the artist Hunter Foster presents nine paintings within a sculptural form of woven strips and opaque metal walls located in the center of a forested public park. Thin pieces of dyed canvas are wound around a painted wooden core—an open wound that is structurally spinal, yet also represents a punctured release—to form an amassed and condensed painting field. This deconstruction of material into concentric circles becomes a haptic metaphor for the avalanche of thoughts that course through this exhibition at its intersection of site, historical time, and place. *Layman* engages in an associative interplay connected to the artist’s ongoing research—concerned with labor, religion, geometry, art history, and the politics of space. The work is engrained with a refusal of certainty (antagonistic, even, towards aboutness) and embraces intellectual and spiritual engagement as a way through and towards “a deep dialectical relationship to our past and collective existence.”

Layman by Hunter Foster is the artist’s first solo exhibition with Good Weather. The exhibition is accompanied with an essay by art historian Connor Crable. *Layman* is on view until July 10, 2021, with gallery hours on Saturdays from noon–3 p.m. and by appointment.

^{1→} Weil, Simone, *Gravity and Grace* (London and New York: Routledge, 2002) , pp. 88-89.

Hunter Foster (b. 1993 Little Rock, Arkansas) lives and works in Little Rock. He completed his BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (2015) and is an MFA candidate at the Yale School of Art (expected 2023). His work has been included in two-person and group shows at Roots and Culture (Chicago), After School Special (Milwaukee), Threewalls (Chicago), and The Hills Esthetic Center (Chicago). He is the co-founder of The Collaborative Center for Storm, Space & Seismic Research, an online and print publishing platform.