

Work Specific Statement - John Trefethen

Central to this work is the feeling of isolation that comes with being a part of a crowd. The portrait is analogous to the “anyone.” There exists an irreducible isolation inherent in being part of the mass. In his article Crowding the Picture, Donald Kuspit states, “wherever a member of this lonely crowd tries to understand, articulate, or assert his or her individual loneliness, he or she comes up against the overwhelming evidence of togetherness with all others in the crowd.” The wax symbolizes the malleable character of an individual who is shaped by his inextricable connection to society. The letter forms have fallen away and collected at the base of the piece, where they have melted together and returned to their raw state, becoming one mass. This links the silence of the individual to the crowd.

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