



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Christy Bush: *Familiar*

On View: February 3rd - March 25th, 2023

Reception: February 10th, 6 - 8pm

Artist Talk / Book Signing: February 11, 11:30 - 1pm



Laney Contemporary is pleased to present a selection of photographs by Christy Bush, organized by Jackson Fine Art in Atlanta. "A rebellious punk rock kid from Atlanta, Bush moved to Athens, GA in the early '90s and fell in with a well-known group of creatives and musicians." The South serves as a backdrop for the majority of Bush's work and a deep source of inspiration. Her photographs, spanning decades, traverse photographic genres with ease, serving as

a process of remembering through intimate connection with her subjects and surroundings. Bush employs a direct style of portraiture that allows her to limn her memories and explore her personal relationships and past experiences through her subject matter. In her first photographic series *Soundtrack to Nothing* (2006), Bush chronicles American adolescence via the passion-fueled relationship between teens and the alt music scene. In the following series, *Jackson*, Bush spent 8 years documenting the complex transition of a single subject from adolescence into young adulthood.

Bush's most recent series, *Familiar*, presents an introspective study of intimate relationships as it explores themes of vulnerability and empowerment through empathetic constructed portraits. The work spans 30 years of photography, including Bush's investigation of coming of age and generational unity as well as her work in fashion and celebrity portraiture. She forges intimate connections with the people she photographs with a dedicated and deferential approach, resulting in access to any subject, be it a child in the neighborhood, a barber, a supermodel, or a pop star. There is much to celebrate in this selection of work that rejects conformity, exudes reverence, and reveals a bit of the artist herself with each photograph. A monograph of this series was published by the Bitter Southerner in 2022.

Artist, musician, and longtime friend to Bush, Michael Stipe, said it best in his astute foreword for *Familiar*, describing the invitational nature of Bush's work:

"There is a simple truth evident throughout. Many of these subjects are family, people that she has gathered together and created a life with. Her documentation of that life is shown in both its rawness and in the more theatrical glamour of the staged and unstaged. It challenges us to look in different ways. It is a delight to be invited inside this life." ~ Michael Stipe

Bio:

Christy Bush (American, b. 1970), is an Athens, Georgia based photographer whose work has been featured regularly in top fashion magazines and across various editorial outlets. Her work has appeared most recently in *Vogue*, *Lovewant AUS*, *Black Magazine NZ*, *Women's Wear Daily*, *The Guardian*, and *Aesthetica*. Bush's photographs have been exhibited in New York, Atlanta, Paris, and Tokyo.

Reception details:

Christy Bush's solo exhibition, *Familiar*, opens in conjunction with Tabitha Soren's solo exhibition, *Relief*. The reception will take place on Friday, February 10th from 6 to 8pm with a food truck on premises.

Artist talk / book signing:

An artist talk and book signing with Tabitha Soren and Christy Bush will take place on Saturday, February 11th from 11:30 to 1pm. *Familiar*, a new monograph from artist Christy Bush and Tabitha Soren's *Surface Tension* will be available for purchase. Limited copies are available; please contact the gallery to reserve your copy. The gallery opens at 11 to view the exhibitions and enjoy refreshments; the artist talk begins at 11:30 followed by the book signing.

Christy Bush: *Familiar*

Celebrating thirty years of photographs — rock 'n' roll, fashion and coming of age in the South — this beautifully edited book features a foreword by Bush's longtime friend, artist and musician Michael Stipe, and compiles some of the artist's most compelling work to date. Bush will discuss her work and process, and books will be available for sale and signing.

Tabitha Soren: *Surface Tension*

Surface Tension isolates one of the most intimate layers of our daily experience: the place where our warm animal bodies, our simplest instincts, collide with the cold and infinite knowledge of the technological world. -Jia Tolentino

Gallery hours and contact information:

Tuesday - Friday, 11-5 pm

Saturday, 11-2 pm

and by appointment

Phone: (912) 438-4442

Address: 1810 Mills B. Lane Blvd, Savannah, GA 31405

For more information, interviews, and to request high resolution images, please contact info@laneycontemporary.com

Image above:

Swimmer, 2018

Edition of 5

Archival pigment print

21 x 15 in