Sydney Shen’s sculptures and installations probe contradictory states such as fear and wonder, pain and pleasure, sacred and profane. She uses motifs of the macabre and abject, especially those which test the limits of the body and language, to speculate upon unnameable phenomena that lie beyond human knowledge.


Sydney is currently a 2019–2020 Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC) Workspace artist-in-residence. She received the 2019–2020 Jerome Foundation Emerging Artist Fellowship from the Queens Museum and a 2018–2019 Queens Art Fund New Works Grant from the Queens Council for the Arts. Sydney’s studio-adjacent projects include co-hosting the podcast *69 Favor Taste*, which explores and reframes the consumption of Asian identities; co-authoring *Perfume Area*, a book of prose-poetry; and making fine jewelry under the pseudonym Gesualda.

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