

## Caito Stewart | Artist Statment

Caito Stewart draws on both her personal history and research on mourning culture to create sculptures, installations, and performative works that serve as alternative forms of reliquary, memorial, or ritual. Using a variety of media, such as cast plaster or resin, ceramic clay, paper, wood, found objects, and carefully arranged piles of charcoal dust, she makes the same domestic items over and over, ritualizing the physical act of creative physical labor through its repetition. Everything is frozen in an uncanny state of half-decay or preserved in a container, echoing her attempts to regain a sense of control amidst change and loss. As part of her ongoing installation project, Ghost Tike, Stewart also holds performances and workshops, where she invites others to join her mourning ritual of hand-making paper leaves.