Grown Cyclone
Caroline Wayne

November 15 – December 22, 2019
Opening Reception: Friday, November 15th, 6-8pm

A.I.R. Gallery is pleased to present Grown Cyclone, the second solo exhibition for Brooklyn-based embroidery artist Caroline Wayne. Please join a reception for the artist Friday November 15th, 6 – 8PM at A.I.R. Gallery, 155 Plymouth St, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

Rounded soft felt forms are adorned with sequins, pearls, and beads, packed and overlapping like armor. Thumb tacks position themselves with pointed-side up in a mechanism of defense. Scrolling across the ornamented circumferences of these narrative vessels, painstakingly embellished scenes examine the distant memories and dreams of the artist’s own sexual traumas.

Each sculpture’s apparent beauty—the laborious result of extended emotional, physical, and psychic effort—illustrates Wayne's lifelong endeavor to process and reshape a complicated and harrowing past. Through onerous mark-making, she exposes the suffering that a body can accumulate over time. The artist’s own cyclic path through healing acknowledges the overlooked stories of survivors, whose fiercest pain lies not in the traumatic event itself but in the way one has to navigate their world for a lifetime after.

In Grown Cyclone, Wayne constructs an immersive environment in which one can examine the emotional, psychological, and vibrational labor expended in order to survive life after trauma. Along with several new embellished totems, the artist has developed full-scale wall drawings, and an unflinching memoir detailing tales of sex, dating, and love based on common patterns of trauma bonding. This book, also titled Grown Cyclone, will be on view in the gallery and available for purchase throughout the duration of the show.

“The fact was that everyone I’d been involved with, since my first attempt at coupling with boys in grade school to the last sociopath I fucked, in one way or another resembled my father…I was set spinning on this path of intimate self-sabotage since the very first time my father inappropriately touched me while I laid helpless on the changing table..” From Caroline Wayne’s Grown Cyclone

Caroline Wayne is a fiber artist and narrative essayist living in Brooklyn, New York. She received her BFA in fiber and material studies at the Chicago Institute of Art, and was awarded a Fellowship at AIR Gallery in 2018. Her work is currently on display at The Wing locations was recently included in the Phillip Johnson Glass House annual summer gala. Wayne is also a professional couture milliner.