

Divaagar

Render Tender, 2020

As you enter Divaagar's mixed media installation, you'll encounter a calming soundscape accompanied by a projection of a rendering of hands in motion. While these hands may not be physically touching you, they attempt to lure you into a meditative space.

Render Tender emulates the set-up of a fictional Reiki studio that channels remote healing through the aid of projected visuals and calming sounds. In the practice of Reiki, the flow of energy around your body is regulated and modulated through touch, words and trust.

Divaagar's installation offers a poignant, adaptable model for practicing and sustaining forms of intimacy and touch in a pandemic where physical contact must be negotiated and avoided.

Navigating the current pandemic requires a lot of care. At the same time, there is so much information about care that is circulating around. This installation can also be seen as a parody of the self-care phenomenon during this time.

Divaagar, a recent graduate of LASALLE College of the Arts, is a visual artist whose practice explores the relationships between desires and spaces through installation, performance and digital media.