

MISSING





**DOMESTIC QT**  
**+**  
**THE SPATIAL**  
**ANOMALIES**

Wickerham & Lomax  
2020  
von ammon co









## GLOSSARY

### Wickerham & Lomax

This glossary outlines a set of points utilized in the development of the Wickerham & Lomax exhibition *Domestic QT + The Spatial Anomalies* at von ammon co. The exhibition runs from Dec. 12th to Jan. 17th. Contact information is available on the gallery's website.

## A

### **Arthur Devis (19 February 1712-- 25 July 1787) –**

A painter known for the “conversation piece” portrait style distinguished by its portrayal of a group or couple apparently engaged in some activity at home. It's likely Devis paintings were purely imagined spaces, not drawn from life. He was known to reuse objects, moving one family's belongings into the painting of another.

## B

***Blood and Fire*** – A controversial script written for *Star Trek: The Next Generation* based around the AIDS epidemic. The script was not filmed by the network as part of the official canon, but fans deeply invested in the franchise filmed the episode. The episode's show card would've promoted the Red Cross, suggesting that viewers donate blood.

**Boarded up, the closing of gay bars** – In Baltimore, MD, the public has bemoaned the loss of gay social spaces, bars, and clubs. The clubs have gone through various iterations of closing and new management, resulting in very limited selection. Upon closing, Club Bunnz was boarded up appearing in an aesthetic similar to Mavis Pusey's paintings from the 1970's, which were a convergence of abstraction, urban space, and blackness.

**Bird (beak)** – W&L motif typically used as a standin for community. Plague doctor, a quack. A COVID-19 mask. A vampire’s sneeze. Baltimore Ravens.

**Bloodlust** – A desire for the taste of iron, possibly caused by childhood trauma, self diagnosed by a patron of Hallway Bar.

## C

**Cabin fever** – *Breathing, Chaos, and Poetry* by Franco “Bifo” Berardi.

**Climate control** – US-residents—among whom white people are disproportionately responsible for carbon output as compared with Black Americans, who disproportionately suffer the ill effects—were found to prefer indoor climate control that mimics the weather of northeastern Africa.

**Cocktail** – The official record shows public drinking in gendered saloons ends under prohibition laws and moves into the privacy of the home. With nowhere to go, the invention of the cocktail marks the shift in marriage relations from partner to soulmate.

**Codes of the House** – Gossip, distancing, surface, framing, supplementals, cultural practices, scripting, networked processes, provisionality,



worldbuilding, transmedia storytelling, community, ensembles, friendships, strategies, faux-juvenility, and seduction.

**Co-inhabitant** – those sharing the same living quarters. This includes: humans, pets, microbes, pests, plants, fictional entities, and ideas. All those things which take roosting in the same dwelling. Our bodies as dwellings are microbiomes hosting cells that are non-human.

**Craigslist** – *Home and Garden* classified listings for house plants who have seen a murder are listed for sale, price greatly inflated.

## D

**Devotion** – Mae West's backup dancer/bodybuilder Mickey Hargitay falls in love with the younger Jayne Mansfield, whom West sues for alienation of affection.

**Deplatforming** – In January 1964 CBS announced it was canceling *The Twilight Zone*. In an interview with *Variety*, the creator Rob Serling responded that he had "decided to cancel the network."

**Distancing mechanisms** – Things that keep the subject from access to entry. This includes walls, barriers, passwords, barricades, hostile architecture, the self referential, force fields as defensive weapons, also things that help slow







down active looking while being a part of that looking.

**Doggy door** – A golden retriever is screen printed on a large blue tarp exiting a doggy door. The back half of its body remains inside and invisible, creating the feeling of the magician who has cut his assistant in half. This liminal image appeared in W&L's first exhibition *King Me*, 2009.

**Domestic cozy** – “Is in an attitude, an emerging socio-economic posture, and an aesthetic that is in many ways the antithesis of premium mediocrity. Unsurprisingly, it takes its cues from the marginal shadow behaviors of premium mediocrity. It finds its best expression in privacy, among friends, rather than in public, among strangers. It prioritizes the needs of the actor rather than the expectations of the spectator. It seeks to predictably control a small, closed environment rather than gamble in a large, open one. Domestic Cozy is something of a pre-emptive retreat from worldly affairs for a generation that, quite understandably, thinks the public sphere is falling apart.” – [Venkatesh Rao](#)

**Domestic dominatrix** – Speaks to a heightened sense of decor in a person whose approach to homemaking was otherwise chaotic.



## E

**Ecosystem** – Humans occasionally introduce predators to ecosystems to assist in controlling the population of an invasive species. Invasive species are capable of reducing biodiversity and causing extinction of populations. It is important that the predator targets this specific invasive species.

## F

**Fictional beings** – Fictional beings sometimes evolve into spaces where actual beings can bond with them—through media, books, artworks—and we can dispel the knowledge of their fictional status. My grandmother would tell me often about the reason she had to stop watching soap operas after a key character died and she cried for three days. This kind of mourning of a fictional being she felt was frivolous and a waste. When I was 15, I would go through this mourning. It was at the end of the series *Ally McBeal*, a show I had committed myself to from the first episode. Watching a show end back then was a different kind of heartbreak.

## G

**General Idea** – Isaac Mizrahi hired poodle groomers to execute a 2008 collection of topiary fur coats.

**Glamourama** – The whole issue was filled with bruises and scars and underarm hair and beautiful shirtless-looking guys lounging improbably in front of an empty 7-11 at dusk somewhere in the heartland.

**Gothic novel** – James Jenkins notes that the connection between gay fiction and horror goes back to the [Gothic](#) novels of the 1790s and early 1800s. Many Gothic authors, like [Matthew Lewis](#), [William Thomas Beckford](#), and [Francis Lathom](#), were homosexual, and according to Jenkins, "the traditional explanation for the gay/horror connection is that it was impossible for them to write openly about gay themes back then."

## H

**Hexagon** – W&L motif seen in shaped canvases, furniture design, and image production, typically indicative of the duo's ongoing investigation of how friendship functions inside of collaboration and vice versa.

**House plant** – Poison Ivy in the Batman universe takes the form of a femme fatale eco-terrorist, having powers based on the control of plants and









their poisons. She is Mother Nature in the space of vengeance. And in her half human-half plant hybridity, her ideology becomes the space in which she negotiates with humanity her love of plants and her disdain of humanity's ecological hostility.

## **I**

**Infestation** – Although termites may infest the home, they are particularly good with the cleanliness of their colony. They carry out a hygiene routine to keep away parasites and bacteria. Something is flourishing while another thing is being destroyed.

## **K**

**Keepsakes** – Things worthy of being saved because of their sentimental value.

**Kin** – Those who share in the network of care, concerns, knowledge, and ideas around the familial. This doesn't have to be the traditional family structure and can include a variety of bonds.

**Kouros** – 1981 YSL cologne, still in production today, despite many comparisons likening it to the smell of a men's public bathroom and "shit in a can."

## **M**

### **Marital portraiture / The Honeysuckle Bower –**

Rubens created a portrait depicting himself and his first wife, Isabella Brandt, surrounded by the symbols of matrimony. It includes a honeysuckle and garden as traditional symbols of love. An invasive species of honeysuckle began its spread in North America and more specifically the US in the early 1800s.

**Marriage Boot Camp** – In the series *Marriage Boot Camp*, the production team designs bedrooms for the cast (couples who came for counseling) based on the recurring issues in their relationship. This set design has varied from a room fully wallpapered in text messages from cheating, to rooms filled with the type of women the male partner would typically go after.

**Marshall McLuhan** – Wrote that “clothing and housing are near twins... housing extends the inner heat-control mechanisms of our organism, while clothing is a more direct extension of the outer surface of the body.” By that definition, cars, too, are a kind of clothing, yet another outer layer, even an exoskeleton.

## **N**

**Nostalgia** – Unconsummated desire kept alive by private forays into the cultural spaces of memory.

## **P**

**Pets** – There is a distinction between a domesticated animal and that which is tamed from the wild. Both can take the status of pet and have a close relationship with humans, though the undomesticated animal is ill advised as an entity to keep in captivity. A 32,000-year-old skull found in a cave was cited as the first remains of a dog.

**Portal** – Like some architectural bogeyman haunting the suburbs, The Drywall Burglar from Cockeysville, Maryland, would slice his way through the drywall of home after home, once raiding an entire block of townhouses without ever coming out for air. He didn't need to. He was the worm in the apple, eating from one unit to the next—carrying TVs, laptops, and cell phones back with him through this above-ground nest of tunnels punched through the suburban world outside Baltimore, a whorled halo of negative space left behind him like a vortex through which household goods would disappear. When police finally arrested him, they found stolen remote controls shoved into his sweatpants pockets.

**Privacy** – Homes reveal the most authentic version of a biography's subject, free from mannered or even hypocritical public behavior. For decades and centuries the personal lives of prominent figures were protected from scrutiny on the grounds that what happens behind closed doors was "private"

and therefore sacrosanct, even when those private doings, no matter how nefarious, were an open secret among colleagues and whisper networks.

## Q

**Quarantine I** – National stay at home orders caused by COVID-19 occurred well into the production of Domestic QT, reframing the show as prophetic, with the added benefit of a new collective imagination of the great indoors.

**Quarantine II** – In *The Human Condition*, Hannah Arendt noted that the domestic sphere, historically, was a fully constrained zone of non-stop labor, where nobody, not even the master of the house, enjoyed any freedom. It was only by venturing out in public that even the master could enjoy a measure of freedom and agency. At home, there was a defined role with duties for everyone. And if you never really left the domestic sphere, you were basically never really free.

**Quarantine III** – Animal internet is full of possibilities for interspecies communication. Technology, in this case, could allow humans to temporarily adopt an animal's perspective, seeing a near or distant place as a member of another species might see it. By acquainting us—via our screens—with the typical habits and behavior of other species, tracking technology can also teach



humans to pay more attention to the animals we encounter in real life. They live with us in our homes, invited or not.

## **R**

**Rabies** – Attacks the central nervous system; it has the highest rate of mortality of any virus, 99.9%. When viewed under a microscope, the virions appear to be shaped like bullets.

**Rem Koolhaas** – [Observes](#) that “air conditioning has launched the endless building,” and if we’re always effectively indoors, our need for functional outerwear diminishes accordingly.

Revelation – “The most remarkable aesthetic mechanism of the Covidian [appears to] be revelation, an aesthetics of epic time and epochal time-suspension; the Apollonian and Dionysian flanks of which are, respectively, the tragic, as aesthetics of sacrifice and pharmakoi, and the panic, as aesthetics of invasion.” – Monica Belevan

## **S**

**Screens** – Both a barrier to which entry or access is negotiated and also a thing of display. The screen can be grabbed, shot, a test. The interactive screen, the interface is unlike the screen in cinema. Yet (...in the postmodern condition of electronic media, the desire is no longer that of living in the screen but rather to be present on its







surface at least for an instant.) – Mauro Carbone, *Come Stay with Me: The Seduction of Screens Today*, 2014

**Slogan** – Under Armour's familiar slogan is "I will... protect this house." The Baltimore-based firm says in a suit filed in court that it is protecting its catchphrase.

**Social distancing** – Measure is only a convection, an intersubjective agreement which is the condition of merit.

**Surface** – The thinnest layer of a person's engagement with the realities of a thing. In this case a foregrounding of the surface in such a way it becomes heavy, like unclean windows, pond scum, moisturizer, and dust. Surface as vast, surface as time, surface as claustrophobic.

**Sven Marquardt** – Berlin's most notorious gatekeeper, he holds and destabilizes spaces of ambiguity by deciding who does and does not enter Berghain.

## T

**The TV set** – Over the years has changed in its shape and image format. The television as a cool media has gone from being such a passive agent in the home, and we now confront the Smart TV.

## **U**

**Under My Roof (move this to the heading Daddy)** – After Liberace plans to adopt his younger boyfriend, he then demands he get plastic surgery to look like a younger version of himself, as if he had a son.

## **V**

**Vampires** – In order for a vampire to enter one's home, they must be invited inside, this invitation can be rescinded (True Blood, HBO) by the homeowner. Vampires are typically framed as the devil, the foreigner, the alien as a way to emphasize their otherness as a force that contaminates, a notion that could allude to altering the purity of the home. Allowing evil in, one becomes susceptible to the temptation, thus placing their sanctuary in danger. They may also be employed as metamorphic agents relating to communicable diseases.

**Vampire Capitalism** – A cultural obsession of self-realization undermines our capacity for collective action.



## **W**

**Wickerham Inn** – Founded in 1801 it's the oldest brick house in Adam's County, Ohio, and the site of a bloody murder whose victim was beheaded for bragging about his wealth. Sightings of his ghost are still common. The victim's head was never found.

**William Hogarth (10 November 1697 -- 26 October 1764)** – The Marriage-A la-Mode series of six pictures was a satirizing depiction of the upper-class 18th-century society who married for wealth and status over love. Many of the portraits' subjects don the black pox mark of syphilis.

