

# JUSTIN LOWE

## BLAZE



**Mixed Doubles, 2025**  
ceramic, silk screen glaze, grout, wood, adhesive, artist frame  
42 x 60 in

**DEC. 4, 2025 – JAN. 16, 2026**

Opening Reception:  
Thursday, Dec 4th, 8–11 PM

Music from **Daniel Wyche**

Refreshments provided by  
**Motorsucker / Illuminated Brew Works / Visitor**

Justin Lowe's exhibit *Blaze* marks the return of the artist to a solo practice. This is Justin Lowe's first solo exhibit in 14 years, as well as his first solo exhibit in Chicago.

### Artist Statement (2025)

"This exhibit contains three distinct yet interrelated bodies of work. Silk-screened glaze of collage-based imagery is deployed on ceramics. Three are framed, while another three are abstract shapes mounted on wood with grout appliqué. Pulling from the same lexicon of imagery, silk-screen is used again to create an editions suite of '70's styled flocked black-light works on paper. The show's title is a reference to a particular high vis orange that is used in a popular brand of camouflage that registers brightly for humans but is undetected by animals. It is also used on roadside signage, Home Depot products, and to generally denote a sense of high alert. Simultaneously, a Blaze is an ornament hung on trees to help articulate a path through a forest."

Lowe relocated to Woodstock, New York during the pandemic. Both Harry Smith and Phillip Guston are buried there, just miles away from the scenes depicted by the Hudson River Valley school and just minutes away from the Byrdcliffe artist colony. This is a place steeped deep in American Mythology. Beyond the concert that didn't take place there, this is the terrain of the headless horseman (presence through absence) and Rip Van Winkle (Time Dismorphia), and both concepts inform the work at Soccer Club Club.

**JUSTIN LOWE** (b. 1976, Dayton, Ohio) lives and works in New York. His practice spans immersive installation, collage, and sculptural media, often driven by speculative histories and countercultural iconography. A graduate of Columbia University (MFA, 2004) and Hampshire College (BA, 2000), Lowe's early solo work emerged from a fascination with the architecture of cultural debris—repurposed fiction, psychedelia, DIY publishing, and what he has described as "the aesthetics of collapse."

Lowe's solo exhibitions have appeared at institutions and galleries internationally, including *Werewolf Karaoke* at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, CT (2010); *Hair of the Dog* at Pepin Moore Gallery, Los Angeles (2011); *Freedom Time Is Here Little Kittens* at Galerie Frédéric Giroux, Paris (2008); and *The New War* at Galleria Cesare Manzo, Rome (2010). His work has been included in group shows such as *Greater New York* at MoMA PS1 (2005), *The Pantagruel Syndrome* at Castello di Rivoli, Turin, and most recently in *A Study in Form* at James Fuentes Gallery, New York (2024), and *R U STILL PAINTING???* with the FALCON Art Collective (2025).

In parallel to his solo practice, Lowe began a long-term collaboration with Jonah Freeman in 2007. Their first project, *Hello Meth Lab in the Sun*, premiered at Ballroom Marfa in 2008 and set the tone for a series of ambitious, immersive installations blending architecture, science fiction, and imagined subcultures. Projects such as *Black Acid Co-Op* (Deitch Projects, 2009), *Shadow Pool* (MOCA Los Angeles, 2017), and *Scenario in the Shade* (MAAT Lisbon, 2018) offered labyrinthine environments populated by fictional institutions, shadow economies, and dystopian detritus. Their collaboration has produced permanent installations including *Artichoke Underground* (2013, Sammlung Philara, Düsseldorf), *A Cell in the Smile* (2018, in a decommissioned Ohio bunker), and *Colony Howl* (2022, AROS, Aarhus). In 2024, they debuted *Sunset Corridor* at The Modern in Fort Worth.

While the collaborative work builds alternate realities at architectural scale, Lowe's solo efforts continue to function at a more intimate but no less disorienting register—cutting across collage, publication, and material experimentation.