

## THE NEW YORKER



The startlingly seductive, earnest, and beautiful six-part video “Glass Life,” by **Sara Cwynar** (on view at Foxy Production through Oct. 23), is about the frictionless world of scrolling and swiping, in which the past and the future collapse into a tantalizing now that somehow remains just out of reach. (The work’s title phrase is drawn from Shoshana Zuboff’s influential 2019 book, “The Age of Surveillance Capitalism: The Fight for a Human Future at the New Frontier of Power.”) It’s also a portrait of the artist as her own archive. Made during the pandemic, the nineteen-minute-long torrent of still and moving images (pictured, in a detail, above) includes footage of Cwynar in her studio, revisiting props and photographs from previous projects, in between scenes of recent protests in the streets of New York City, a grounded fleet of Alitalia planes, and an overwhelming array of other content. Categorical and historical distinctions dissolve, so that Margaret Thatcher and Mickey Mouse, or a live model and a C.G.I.-generated avatar (to name an infinitesimal sample of Cwynar’s encyclopedic subjects), become interchangeable fodder for the feed.— Andrea K. Scott