

Paid  
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Seattle, Washington  
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October 14 - October 28  
Sean Lockwood  
*Two Years*

Opening Reception: Saturday, October 14 at 5:00PM  
Open hour: Sunday afternoons from 1:30-2:30PM  
Email to make an appointment outside of these times.

Seeking contentment is not a trait unique to any one person. Predictability and patterns are desirable because they eliminate factors which can overstimulate or which leave us in a state of unresolvedness. When one's equilibrium is disrupted, the ability to make decisions can be ground to a halt until it is restored. Film trailers capitalize on this by deliberately unsettling an audience with truncated previews in order to coax them into finding resolve by buying tickets to a full-length film. Upon entering the theater to relieve their anxiety, viewers are met with a new series of trailers perpetuating the cycle of inflammation. The equation for upset and return to calm isn't always this simple, however, nor is it always transactional.

Two days ago, at the time of writing this press release, I learned that Sean sleeps in socks, sweatpants, and a fully-zipped hoodie with the hood drawn tight around his head leaving only a gap big enough through which he can breathe. This, for some reason, floored me. But what was presented as an unbelievable habit to me was one established through a lifetime of finding what works for Sean. I didn't even own a pair of sweatpants before Sean and I moved in together in 2018.

We both quit our jobs as technicians at the University of Washington School of Art in the same week this September, foisting the Photography program and our comfort into a state of friction. Our means of financial support and, by proxy, Paid's have been voluntarily forfeited in the pursuit of unbeknownst to us forms of contentment and to avoid complacency. I also bought a hoodie.

- Nick Strobel

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Sean Lockwood was born in 1994 in Delaware. He grew up in Newark, DE and graduated from the University of Washington with an MFA in 2018. He has lived and worked in Seattle where he co-runs Paid with Nick Strobel.