

Lisa Brawn

Risk Management For Introverts, 2022, acrylic on wood

Artist statement

Here is a viable coping mechanism as demonstrated by *The Invisible Man* ca. 1933. This one is personal. I have to devise elaborate workarounds to present myself non-anonymously in public. I am predisposed to introversion, and the world is particularly unsafe for LGBTQ2, which I discovered personally by coming out in high school in the 80s.

Society was becoming a lot friendlier over the past decade, and I thought, What is this trick? Sure enough, right-wing politicians and talking heads are gearing up an explicit attack on a time-tested scapegoat which will no doubt get frothed up into a fever pitch to rally their base for the '24 election.

It's a leaky cultural border and I observe the big jump onto the bigotry bandwagon already in progress. All people in precarious social positions are required to put a lot of thought into how to navigate the situation if any improvement in goodwill collapses like a house of cards.

Carved and painted woodcut on a curved oak chair back (salvaged from the renovation of the Martha Cohen Theatre)