



Dan Dowd

What's Going On?

August 1 - August 31, 2025

OPENING RECEPTION

Friday, August 1, 5-7PM

CALDBECK GALLERY

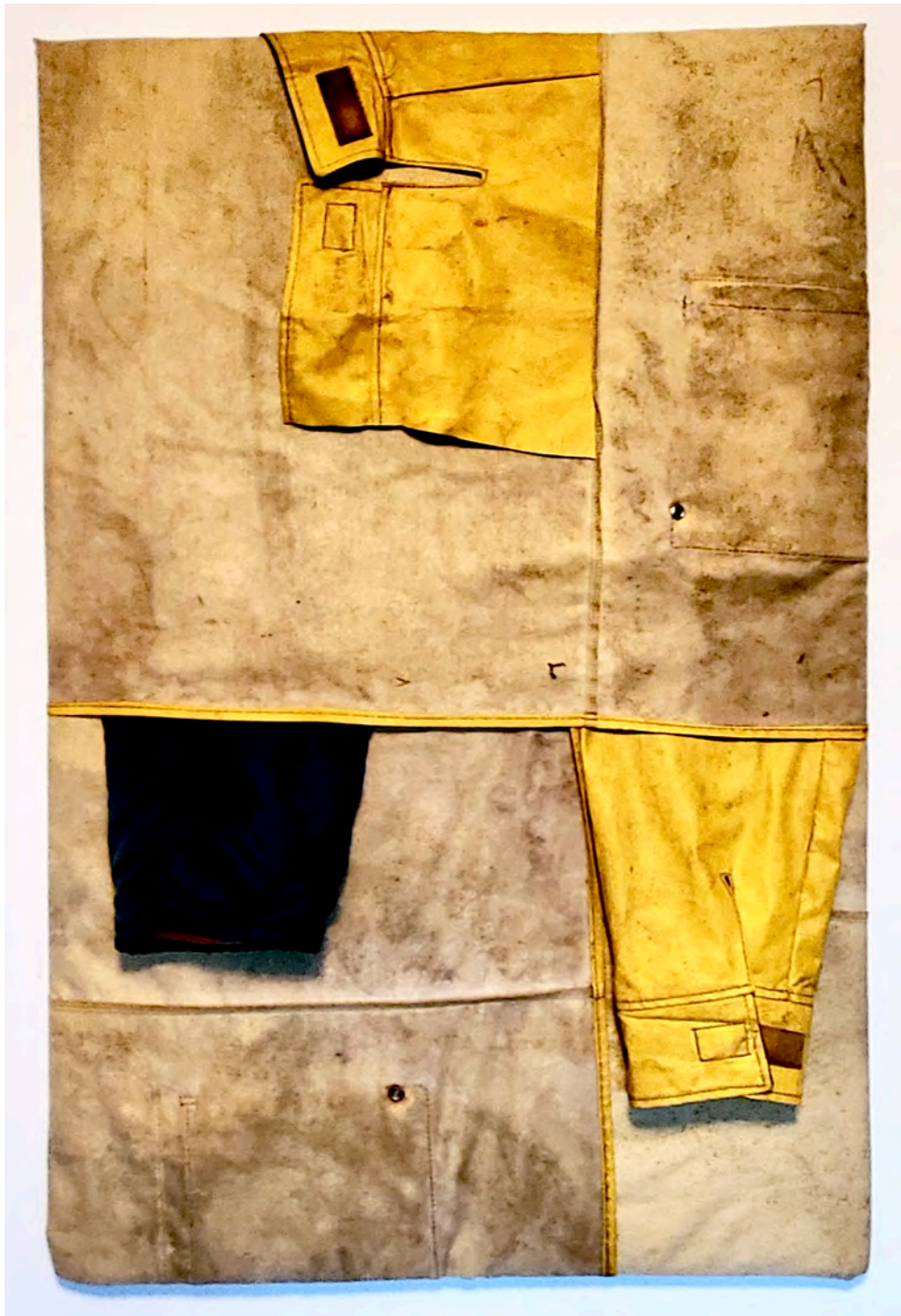
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What's Going On?

This body of work speaks to the current political climate as well as histories embedded in the materials. The work locates the materials within our consumption-heavy culture and places an emphasis on re-use and re-creation as alternative paths forward. Ubiquitous throughout the work are pieces of clothing, often clearly used or otherwise maculated, which suggest the bodies that once wore them. However, they have been stretched and re-formed, suggesting the human body through their materiality, as opposed to their forms. Intuitive matching and contrasting between materials forms the basis for my practice. "What's Going On?" centers on another key component of my practice, the history of labor that is built into each and every object in the exhibition, engaging the idea of class in many of the most recent pieces. Each piece of clothing or tire rubber carries with it the effort and energy that went into making it; I extend their lifespans, removing them from the endless glut of the waste which predominates our society. The transformation of the discarded to the elevated is a central precept of contemporary art. I want to engage this theme, not for its aesthetic daring, but as an homage to the original craftsman, and to the environment which provided the raw substance of these objects.

My practice is an exercise in contemplative re-use, and as such, charts a course toward finding (or re-finding) joy in those things we leave behind.

Dan Dowd
July 2025



TERRITORIES-DISPLACED 2025
found rain jacket and winter coat on board
38 x 24 x 2 inches



MATERIAL CLASSIFICATION-SEA ANENOME 2025
rock hopper, found fur, found suede
6 x 6 x 3 inches



MARIA VON TRAPPED 2025
found fur coat, found wool blanket on board
32 x 21 x 3 inches



MATERIAL CLASSIFICATION-DECO SET-FORWARD MOTION 2025
rock hopper, wool blanket, silk on board
16 x 15 x 3 inches



CLASS SERIES-THE UNSEEN 2025
found fur coat, found truck tire inner tube on board
24 x 16 x 3 inches



MATERIAL CLASSIFICATION-ABOVE/BELOW 2025
rock hopper, fur, lining
18 x 18 x 4 inches



MATERIAL CLASSIFICATION-DEFENDER 2025
rock hopper, fur on board
15 x 15 x 3 inches



CLASS SERIES-CLASS I.D./INTERIOR DESIGN 2025
found fur coat lining, rain jacket on board
29 x 13 x 3 inches



CLASS SERIES-UPPER LOWER UPTOWN DOWNTOWN 2025
found fur, found rubber on board
25 x 16 x 2 inches