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Habits

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Svetlana is pleased to present Habits, a group exhibition on view through April.

Someone asked me recently about the first music I ever bought. I had to think back to remember. I hadn't bought it at all. In fact it was a grey panasonic tape player I had found walking around during summer one day when I didn't have school. It had headphones still plugged in. Inside the player was a bootleg of Weezer's Blue Album. On the outside of the device someone had carved in with a knife: I hate Breders. I thought to myself: what's a breder?

At every age you find uses for idle time. As you get older, most of these uses change or evolve. But some stay with you. When you try to make work or get something done, sometimes you try things other people have done. There are strategies... but you've got to reinvent them somehow, or pervert them, if you want to be taken seriously or be original in whatever you do. That's called retooling. Trying familiar strategies, maybe, but with a different approach or a new orientation.

When I was a kid, I was temperamental and pissed off. When I became an adult, that didn't change so much. But instead of frowning, like I did when I was a kid, I smiled more. At work, on the street, in bookstores: Like an exhausted dinner guest at a dull party, you want to grin, to retreat behind something familiar and easy. A bored smile has something timeless about it. There's a beauty to that.

This is a show about most of that: knock offs, doing things, grinning, as well as personal style. There isn't any fussy thesis though, that's not really the vibe.