

# Lúa Coderch *exhausted and exuberant*

Madrid, 25 January – 15 March 2025  
Curated by Carmen Lael Hines & Roberto Majano

THE RYDER

Lúa Coderch's first solo show at The Ryder Projects centers on the difficulties in forming a language for how we care for ourselves and how we care for others. *exhausted and exuberant*, a social diagnosis proposed by Jan Verwoert, illustrates the affective pressure to constantly reproduce our capacity to "show up," for our lovers, our friends, our work, or something that links them all together in the age of network-ed being. It is a pressure to perform, and a difficulty in articulating dissent as performativity shapes consciousness and language. In Coderch's works, we are invited to inhabit this paradox and sit with these contradictions.

It is perhaps no coincidence that these two words, exhausted and exuberant, etymologically relate to dripping/sucking. -Ex is the latin for out. In the case of -ex(hausted) it comes from "drained out," quite literally "out" + haurire 'draw (water) taking liquid from the earth. -Ex(uberant) is put together from ex ("out"), and uber ("udder"), which would have referred to a cow or she-goat which was making so much milk that it naturally dripped or sprayed from the udder. exhausted and exuberant both come from an idea of liquid, and of fertility(of earth and flesh). When exhausted, liquid is sucked, leaving things dry. Exuberant is a state where liquid drips from where it is held. To be exhausted is to be drained, to be exuberant is to overflow. But both states exist on a spectrum of how liquidity is managed or controlled.

Liquid is a substance, liquidity means cash. This is because capitalistic logic is predicated on the ghoulish, vampiric appropriation of ways of being that we hoped would remain outside of it. This includes our affective lives, our relationship to ourselves, our bodies, and the bodies that touch us.

Caring relates to attention, and to control. Self-care can be the setting of boundaries and the snuggling into softness, or both at the same time. In Coderch's practice, caring may be controlling the explosiveness of feelings between lovers, monitoring how much we share, finding the patience to listen, or creating social equations for responding correctly. This is a kind of liquidity that may not be water taken from the earth, nor milk taken from the utter of a fertile goat, but is similarly leaking and generative, messy and dry.

Ferdinand de Saussure, a Swiss linguist from the late 19th century, famously argued that language "is the social side of speech, it exists only by virtue of a sort of contract signed by the members of a community." Under the premise of language as indicator and reproducer of the social, we invite you to experience Coderch's work while considering the dual meaning of "mantra" as provided by a digital dictionary. One definition is a spiritual principle used to aid in meditation; another is a mass-produced slogan. These definitions exist with simultaneity in a society shaped by the ongoing corporatization of affective, spiritual life and interpersonal care. Coderch's practice softly and directly immerses in this contradiction.

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1.  
**S/T (The Girl With No Door On Her Mouth), 2025**  
Painted steel  
Unique
2.  
**Echo (The couch one), 2022**  
Upholstered structure, artificial hair,  
Raspberry Pi, speaker, and microphone  
120 x 277 x 60 cm  
Unique
3.  
**Sore throat 10% darker (I think of you), 2018**  
Digital print, tinted glass  
40 x 30 cm  
Edition of 3
4.  
**Sore throat 10% darker (I love you), 2018**  
Digital print, tinted glass  
40 x 30 cm  
Edition of 3
5.  
**Sore throat 10% darker (You need someone), 2018**  
Digital print, tinted glass  
40 x 30 cm  
Edition of 3
6.  
**Sore throat 10% darker (I know it hurts now), 2018**  
Digital print, tinted glass  
40 x 30 cm  
Edition of 3
7.  
**Sore throat 10% darker (We can still be friends), 2018**  
Digital print, tinted glass  
40 x 30 cm  
Edition of 3
8.  
**Sore throat 10% darker (I really like you), 2018**  
Digital print, tinted glass  
40 x 30 cm  
Edition of 3
9.  
**We Can Still Be Friends, 2018**  
Audio (transparent vinyl 12", 33 RPM)  
18 min 34 sec
10.  
**Sore throat 10% darker (We can still), 2018**  
Digital print, tinted glass  
70 x 50 cm  
Edition of 3
11.  
**Sore throat 10% darker (I'm not your mother), 2018**  
Digital print, tinted glass  
70 x 50 cm  
Edition of 3
12.  
**Reaction (smile with tear, 1 KB), 2025**  
1024 nickel thumbtacks gold-plated,  
painted with oil paint  
Variable dimensions  
Unique
13.  
**Cold Reading / Always tell the subject what they want to hear, 2016**  
Digital print, matte fiber  
100 x 70 cm  
Ed. 2 of 2
14.  
**Cold Reading / Use general and ambiguous expressions which may hold different meanings, 2016**  
Digital print, matte fiber  
100 x 70 cm  
Ed. 2 of 2
15.  
**Cold Reading / Ask questions that can be read as affirmations, 2016**  
Digital print, matte fiber  
100 x 70 cm  
Ed. 2 of 2
16.  
**Cold Reading / Try to give the impression that you know more than you say, 2016**  
Digital print, matte fiber  
100 x 70 cm  
Ed. 2 of 2
17.  
**Cold Reading / Watch the atmosphere, 2016**  
Digital print, matte fiber  
100 x 70 cm  
Ed. 2 of 2
18.  
**Cold Reading / Win the cooperation of the subject, 2016**  
Digital print, matte fiber  
100 x 70 cm  
Ed. 2 of 2
19.  
**Not I, 2018**  
Single-channel digital video, color, sound  
20 min. Ed. 3 + 1 A/P
20.  
**Seesaw-Bench, 2022**  
Tubular structure with padded surface  
180 x 45 x 105 cm

