

DIARY

## DOWN IN FRONT

July 21, 2018 • Cleveland, Ohio • Zack Hatfield at the inaugural FRONT Triennial



A.K. Burns, *The Dispossessed*, 2018. Installation view at Transformer Station.

The next morning, we went to [Fred Bidwell's](#) Transformer Station, the gallery space that helped gentrify Hingetown a few years ago. In its front lawn, A. K. Burns had installed a pair of warped chain-link fences. As we idled around them, eating donuts, Burns herself wandered by and gave an impromptu spiel about the work, which arose from ideas about borders (bodily and geographical) and the tangled dynamics of art and redevelopment. “The lines of gender don’t make a lot of sense to me,” she said, acknowledging that Hingetown once served as a haven for the local queer community. “And gentrification and the arts have this knotted, complicated history.” The fences, she said, could help express some of the rage felt about all of this. “It’s actually not easy to crush a fence,” she added.