

Thomas Lanigan-Schmidt carries glittering chalices into the living room.

Oh, Chalices. Christian chalices. Set with large precious stones like liturgical equipment from the Cologne Cathedral treasure. Or perhaps from the Russian Orthodox Trinity Monastery of Sergiyev Possad? **Thomas Lanigan-Schmidt**, who made these vessels in high medieval, metaphysical imperfection from - yes - compressed aluminum sheets or plastic scraps and brought them into shape with many stapler needles, once converted from Catholicism to the Russian Orthodox Church. Because it "had something to do with communism," the US artist said in an interview in 2012 in view of his exhibition at the MoMA PS1. Long before Putin and Moscow Patriarch Kirill, during the Cold War, this happened when the word communism alone meant a provocation in the USA.

From the New York district "Hell's Kitchen", Lanigan-Schmidt has always been tinkering with US society and its regulations. In its reshaped goods and packaging, the spiritual and everyday, pomp and trash become an idiosyncratic, campy world of things.

And it is now transferred to the Beletage apartment of the Buzzer Reeves gallery. Rats made of aluminum foil in a retro look of shoe polish and nail polish sit on pedestals, the typical brownstones of New York stand in the form of bread bags as a miniaturized row of houses in front of the window, in the background the U1* passes the Berlin apartment buildings.

On the boxes of his tissue boxes, which the 77-year-old and now in need of care artist uses on a daily basis, dense ballpoint pen drawings show slightly enraptured everyday scenes, somewhere between banality and art: TV cables become an ornament in stuffed living rooms, Putti float over the dense streets.

They look a bit like Raphael's and seem to be less a confession of faith than a reproduction of advertising motifs. Because, the "American life is hyperaesthetic", according to Lanigan-Schmidt. "Every ad is hyperaesthetic. Maybe it's not good or great aesthetics, but it's aesthetics."

(*u1 is the overground subway)