## **Chris Smith**

## **Artist Statement**

Nude or naked, what is the difference and how is it manifested? The eight sculptures in this suite are part of a series of nineteen figures which pose that question. The steel shelves they stand on act as narrative prompts and markers of space for these sculptures. When exhibited in a line and close to each other the attitudes and body language of these figures begin to have a conversation with each other, a dialogue between the guardedly nude and the openly naked. Which attitudes carry the shame of the natural state and which shrug it off?