

THE APPROVAL MATRIX

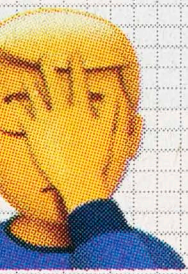
Our deliberately oversimplified guide to who falls where on our taste hierarchies.

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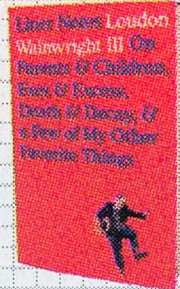
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USA! USA! **Half** of the novels on the Man Booker Prize shortlist are American.



Aneta Bartos's autobiographical "**Family Portrait**," at Postmasters Gallery.

Janine Foeller and Micky Schubert's GrandArmyCollective in Park Slope, an experiment in art-gallery **sustainability**.



Loudon Wainwright III's Wasp-hippie-horny-narcissist-genius **confessional**, *Liner Notes*.

Celeste Ng's Shaker Heights-gets-shaken **up** thriller, *Little Fires Everywhere*.



Houston Texans defensive end J.J. Watt's incredibly effective social-media fundraising for **hurricane** relief.

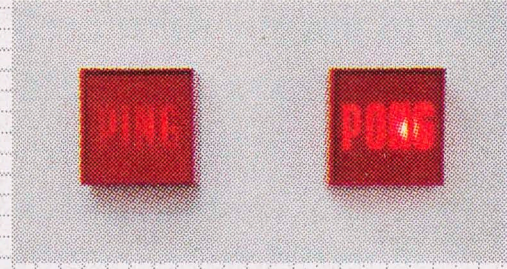
Amtrak says that the new Hudson train tunnel will start construction in the **spring**.



Liam Neeson is retiring from action



A **rich** trove of Arte Povera ● at Hauser & Wirth.



Suzan-Lori Parks's **stark**, crass riff on Nathaniel Hawthorne, *Fucking A*.



Polly Devlin and Annie Schlechter's *New York Behind Closed Doors*.

Who knows how to make it work, but still, Bernie has a bill for Medicare for **all**.



Mayor de Blasio wants us

BRILLIANT