



ERIKA ROTHENBERG | VITAL SIGNS
FEBRUARY 18 - MARCH 25, 2023

ERIKA ROTHENBERG

VITAL SIGNS

Charlie James Gallery is pleased to announce a solo exhibition by **Erika Rothenberg**, her second at the gallery. *Vital Signs* presents a new series of works on the main floor and a selection of early works in the lower gallery. The opening is February 18 with a reception for the artist from 6-9 PM.

On the main floor, Rothenberg has created a new body of work that pairs provocative statistics with painted images, exploring the rampant use of data to legitimize one's own objectives, nefarious or not. Rothenberg says, "I decided to collect a bunch of statistics and create a poetic, satirical portrait of America. The stats I use are 'real'. Juxtaposing unrelated statistics with semi-related images turned out to be fascinating: Aliens and Comfort Objects, Tornadoes and Billionaires, The 1st Amendment and Snakes, etc.

Also included in the exhibition are works about our Divided Country, new lyrics for the Star-Spangled Banner, and in the downstairs gallery, a selection of works from 1982-2005. The issues Rothenberg has explored throughout her career are the same challenges we still face today.

Erika Rothenberg was born in New York and lives in Los Angeles. Her work has been exhibited at major art institutions including the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; Hirshhorn Museum, DC; Documenta IX, Kassel, Germany. Rothenberg is also recognized for her public art installations, including Freedom of Expression National Monument, commissioned by Creative Time, and The Road to Hollywood in Los Angeles. She is a founding member of the Guerrilla Girls collective. She attended the University of Chicago until she was kicked out for participating in a student protest. Before becoming a full-time artist, she was the first woman art director at McCann-Erickson ad agency in New York, working on award-winning campaigns for Coca-Cola and the New York Times, among other clients.

Artist Instagram: @erikarothenberg1

Artist Website: www.erikarothenberg.com

ERIKA ROTHENBERG
VITAL SIGNS

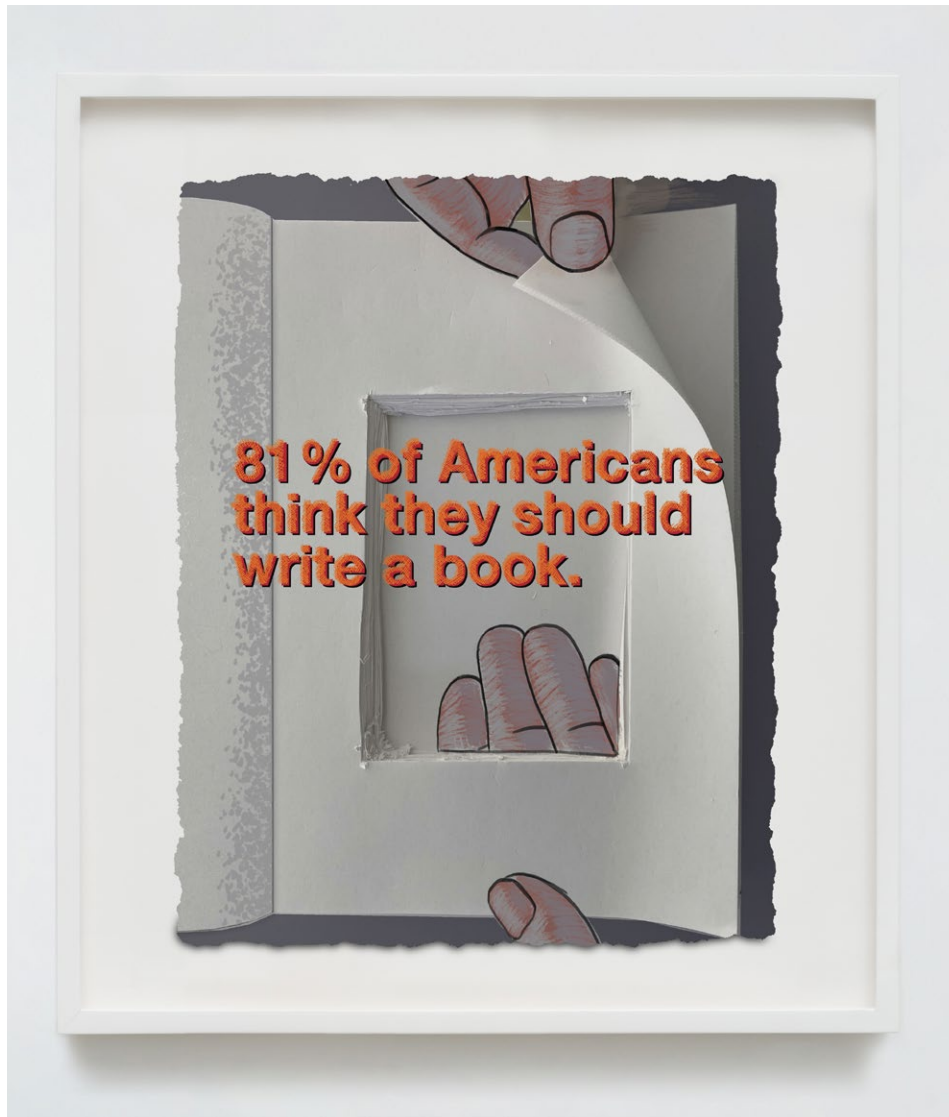


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Snakes Billboard
Vinyl
2023

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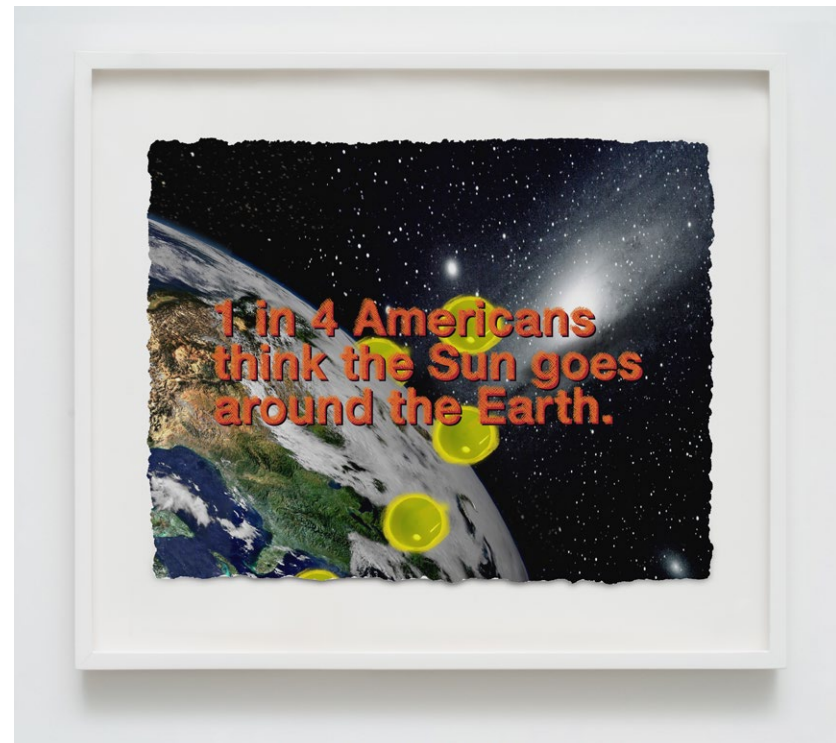
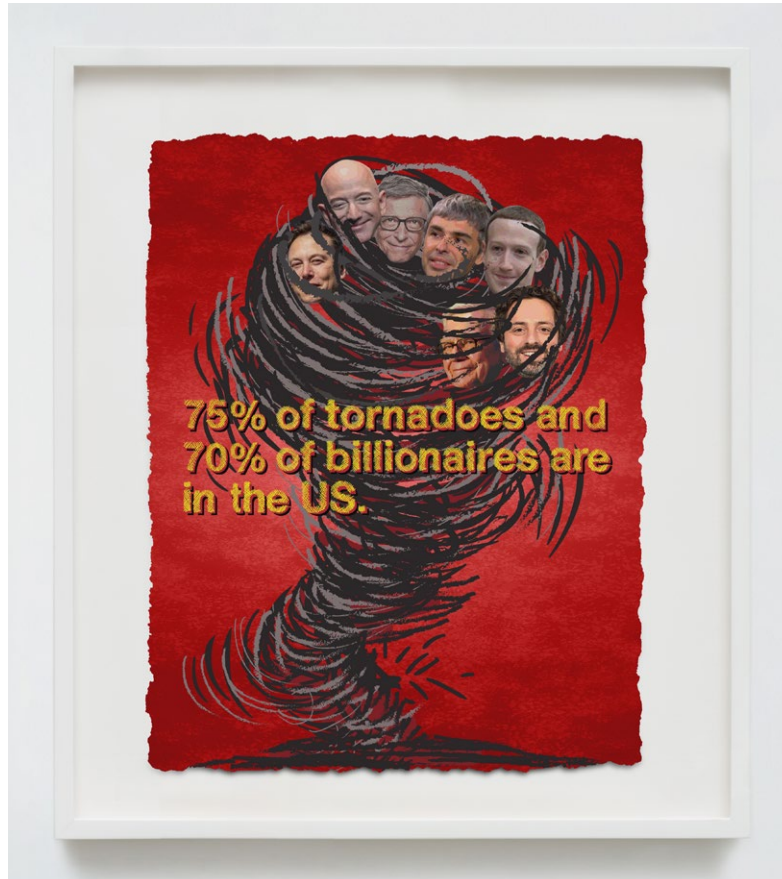
Write A Book/First Amendment, 2022-23
Dptych
2 Archival pigment print prints on Hahnemühle paper
35 x 28 inches each
Edition of 3
2022-23

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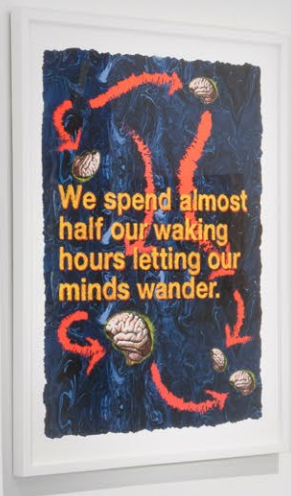
Crayons/Aliens/Comfort Object
Triptych
3 Archival pigment print prints on Hahnemühle paper
35 x 28 inches each
Edition of 3
2022-23

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Sun/Tornadoes/Snakes
Triptych
3 Archival pigment print prints on Hahnemühle paper
35 x 28 inches each
Edition of 3
2022-23

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*America, A Shining Beacon
to the World*
Aluminum sign w plastic
letters.
36 x 24 inches
Edition of 10
2018

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Minds Wandering
Archival pigment print on
Hahnemühle paper
Edition of 3
28 x 34 inches
2022

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Write a Book Billboard
Archival pigment print print
on semi-gloss paper
16 x 20 inches
2023

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Tornadoes and Billionaires Billboard
Archival pigment print print
on semi-gloss paper
16 x 20 inches
2023

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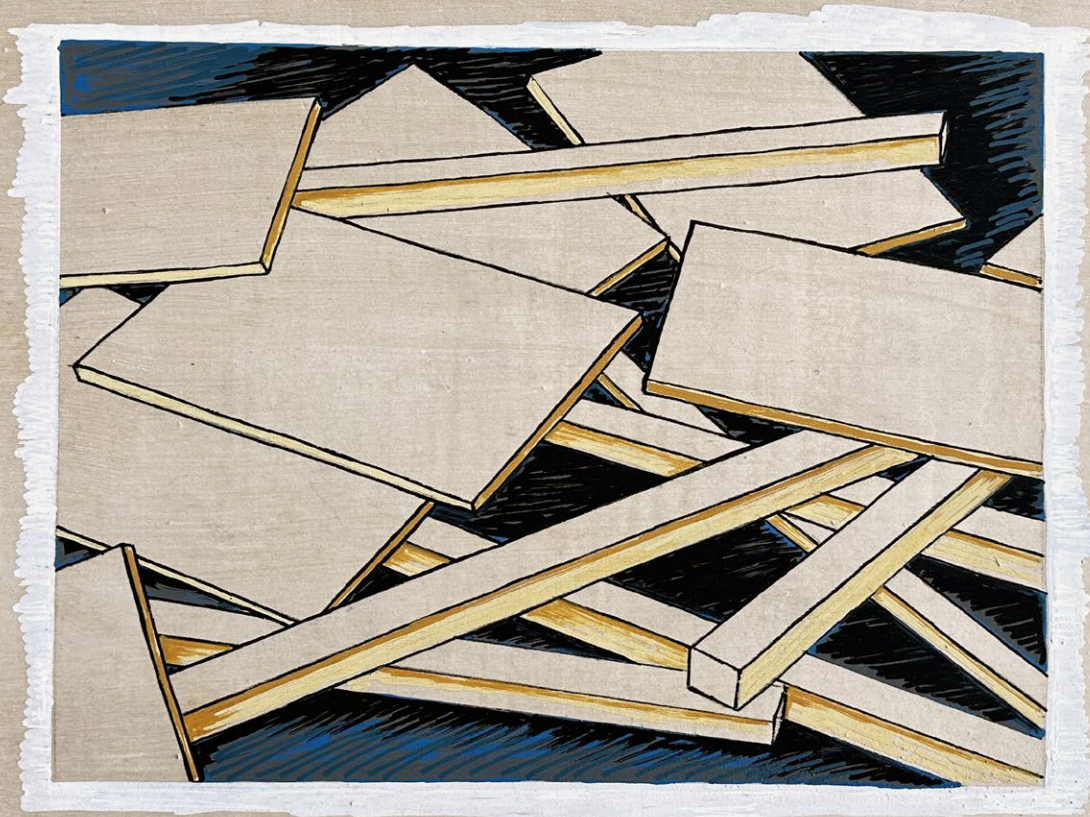
1st Amendment Bench
Archival pigment print print
on semi-gloss paper
16 x 20 inches
2023

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Snakes Billboard
Archival pigment print print
on semi-gloss paper
16 x 20 inches
2023

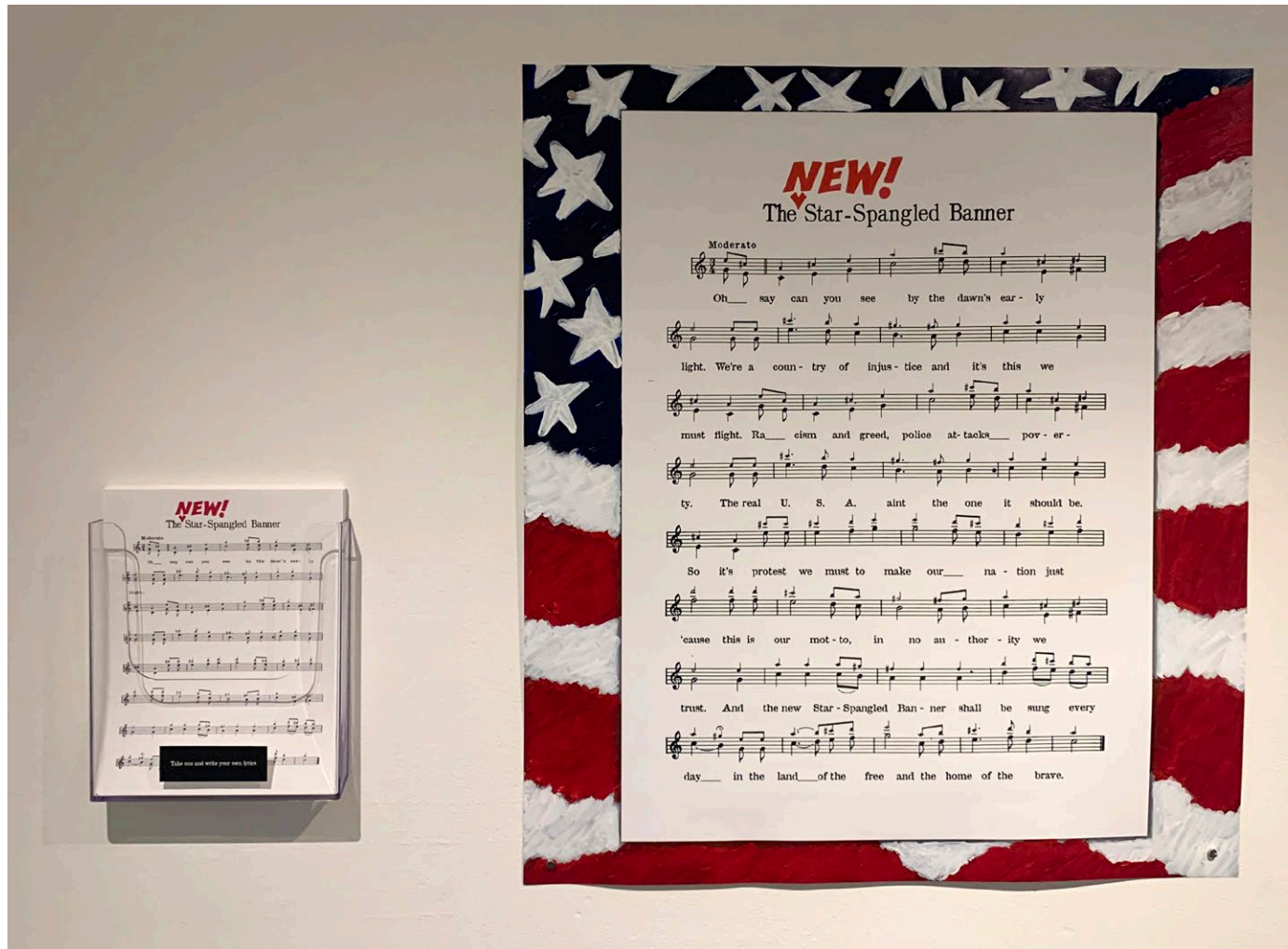
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Why Protest Injustice?
Acrylic on wood panel
12 x 16 inches
2021

WHY PROTEST INJUSTICE WHEN YOU CAN JUST WAIT A FEW CENTURIES & THINGS MIGHT GET BETTER

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The New Star-Spangled Banner
Hand embellished Archival
pigment print on
semi-gloss paper
Edition of 10
30 x 27 inches
2019-23

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The Divided Cemetery
Archival pigment print print
on Hahnemühle paper
Edition of 3
30 x 40 inches
2022-2023



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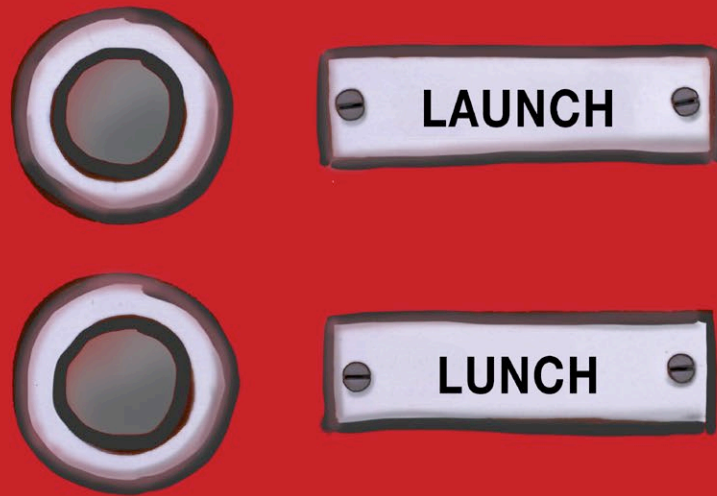
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Works I Did in These Shoes
1982-1992
2019

On loan from
the Shoes Or No Shoes
Museum, Kruishoutem,
Belgium

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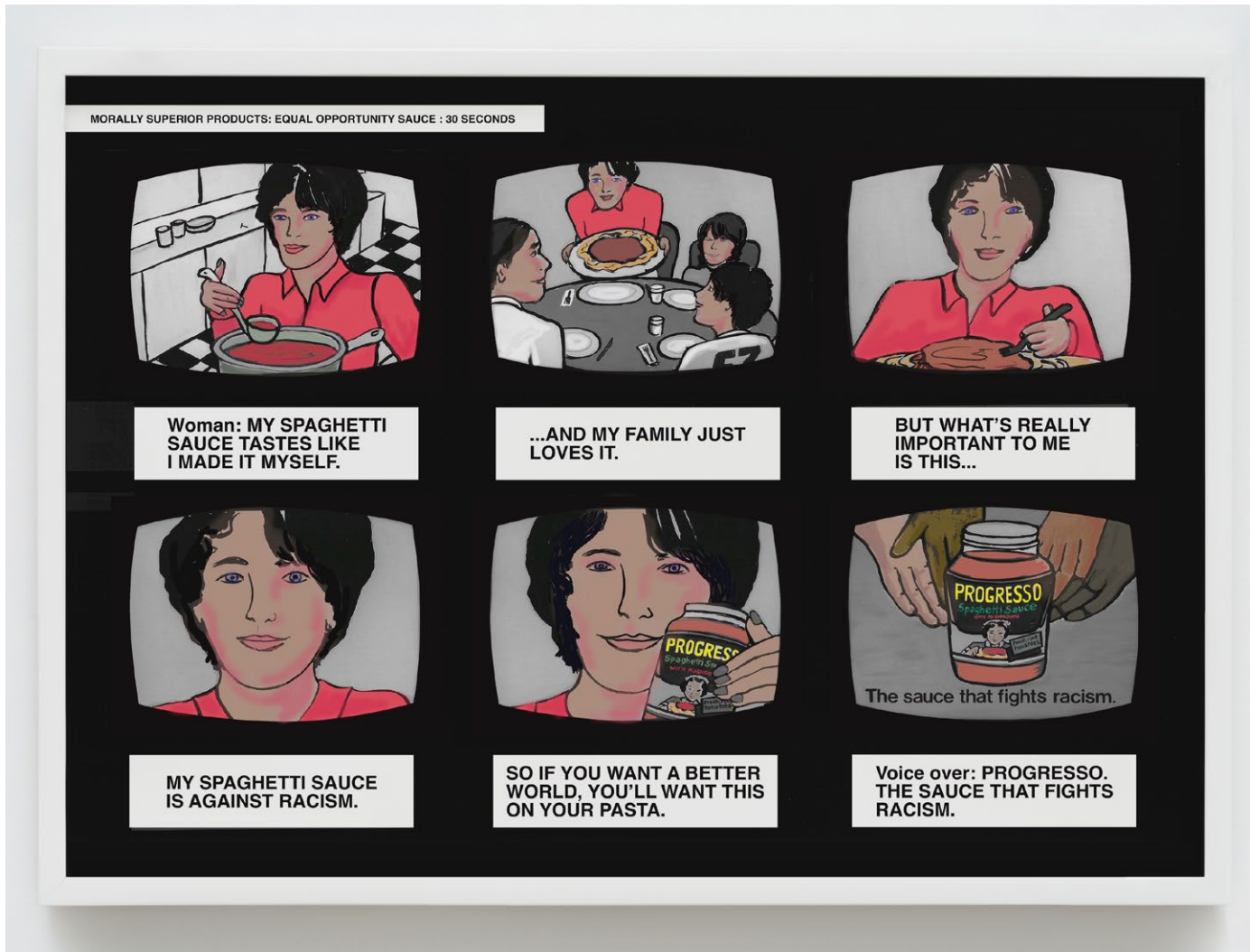


PUSHING THE RIGHT BUTTONS

Launch/Lunch
9 x 12 inches
Edition of 3
1982

This appeared in Newsweek
and the Village Voice, as well
as galleries.

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Morally Superior Products: Equal Opportunity Sauce
Archival pigment print on Hahnemühle paper
Edition of 3
30 x 40 inches
1982

"Corporate accountability is a huge issue today. In 1982 it did not exist. So I invented it, with a series of works called *Morally Superior Products*. This is the first work in that series."

MORALLY SUPERIOR PRODUCTS: EQUAL OPPORTUNITY SAUCE : 30 SECONDS



Woman: MY SPAGHETTI SAUCE TASTES LIKE I MADE IT MYSELF.



...AND MY FAMILY JUST LOVES IT.



BUT WHAT'S REALLY IMPORTANT TO ME IS THIS...



MY SPAGHETTI SAUCE IS AGAINST RACISM.



SO IF YOU WANT A BETTER WORLD, YOU'LL WANT THIS ON YOUR PASTA.



The sauce that fights racism.

Voice over: PROGRESSO. THE SAUCE THAT FIGHTS RACISM.

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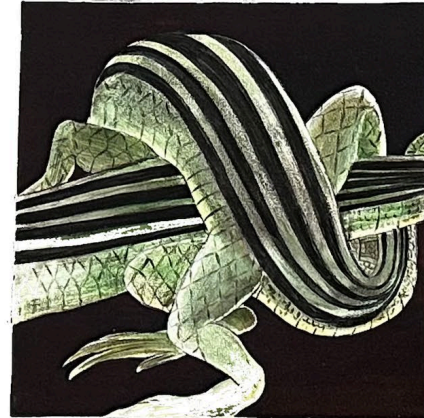
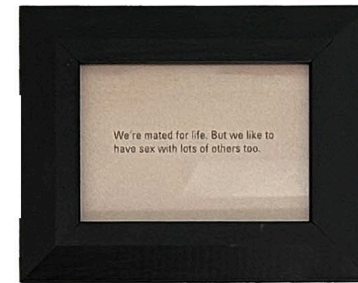
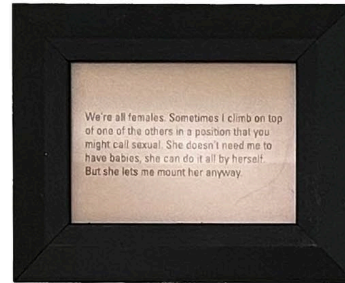
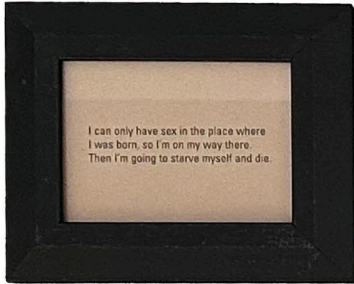


Media Story
Hand painted images on offset
print
37 x 28 inches
Unique
1991

People were talking about "The Media" so I decided to make the media into a person.

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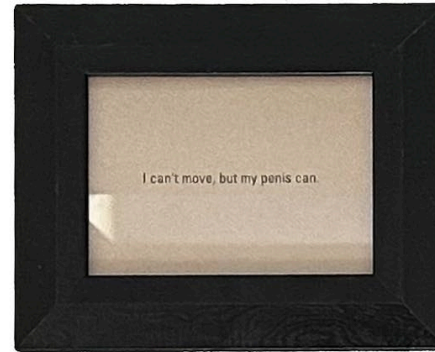
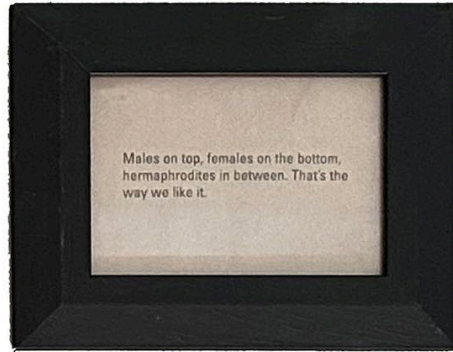


Sex Lives of Animals: Salmon
Acrylic on canvas and framed
text print on paper
8 x 10 inches, 10 x 10 inches
Unique
1994-95

*Sex Lives of Animals: Whiptail
Lizard*
Acrylic on canvas and framed
text print on paper
8 x 10 inches, 12 x 12 inches
Unique
1995

Sex Lives of Animals: Duck
Acrylic on canvas and framed
text print on paper
8 x 10 inches, 10 x 10 inches
Unique
1995

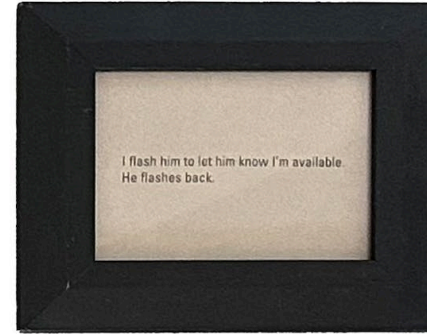
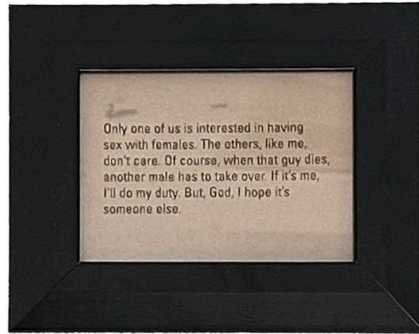
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VITAL SIGNS



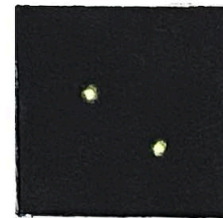
*Sex Lives of Animals: Slipper
Limpet*
Acrylic on canvas and framed
text print on paper
8 x 10 inches, 9 x 12 inches
Unique
1996

Sex Lives of Animals: Barnacle
Acrylic on canvas and framed
text print on paper
8 x 10 inches, 10 x 10 inches
Unique
1994

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Sex Lives of Animals: Chichlid
Acrylic on canvas and framed
text print on paper
8 x 10 inches, 12 x 12 inches
Unique
1994-95



Sex Lives of Animals: Firefly
Acrylic on canvas and framed
text print on paper
8 x 10 inches, 5 x 5 inches
Unique
1996

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The Stravinskys, Venice, Italy, 2003
Diptych
Archival pigment prints
Edition of 5
Framed: 38.5 x 30.5 inches
1983-2005

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40 Incidents From an Anti-Flag-Burning Website
Goauche on paper
48 x 72 inches
Unique
2000

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VITAL SIGNS



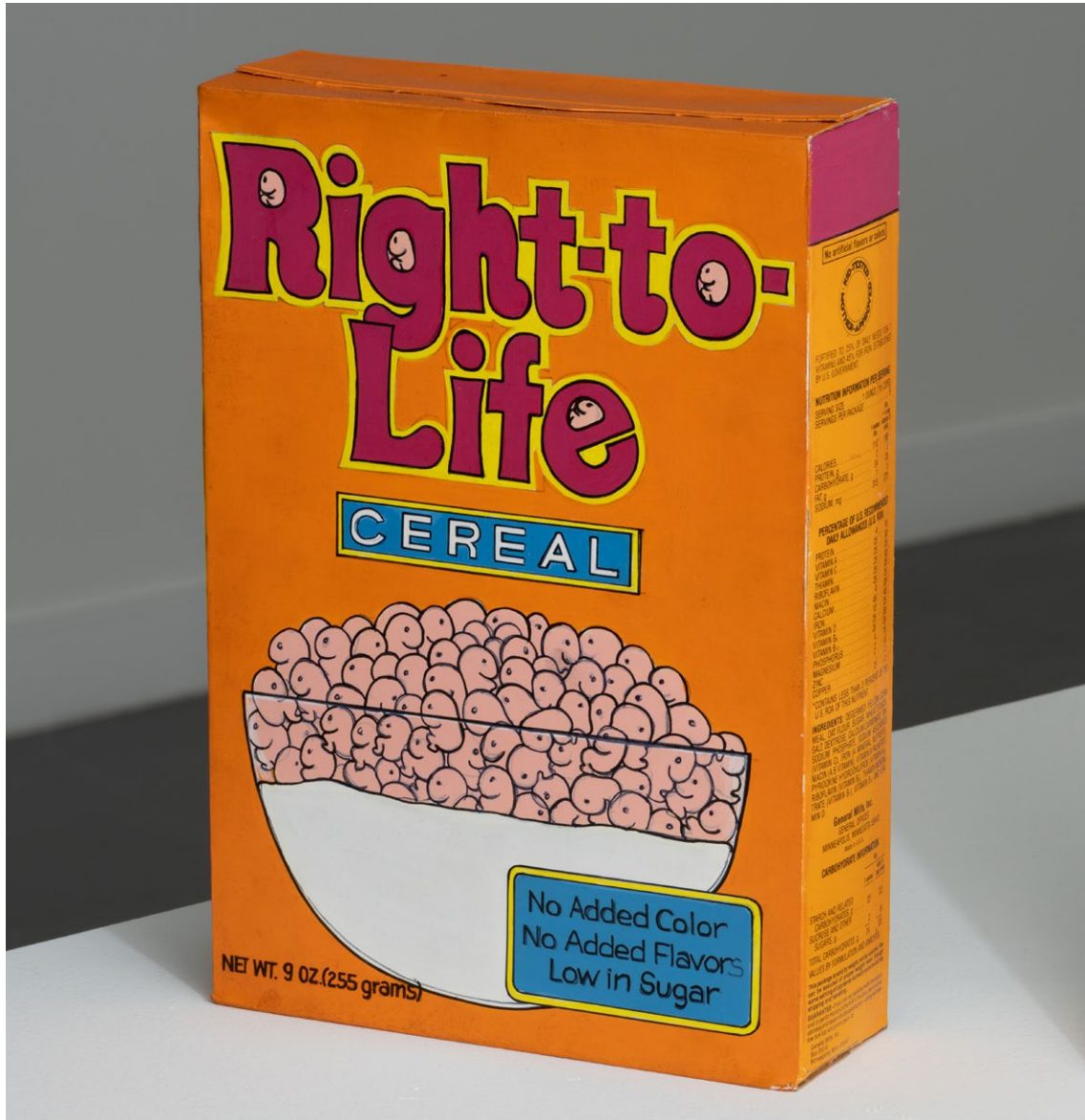
Los Alamos
Archival pigment print
Edition of 3
30.5 x 38.5 inches framed
1983-2005

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*Proof That This Is The Greatest
Country On Earth*
Acrylic on wood
Edition of 3
1989-2023

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Right to Life Cereal
1985

From *Morally Superior Products*,
a series of paintings and objects.

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Secret Penis
1986

From the installation *Secret Penis*, Washington DC and Los Angeles 1987

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*Freedom of Expression Products
1989*

Part of a controversial window
installation at the New Museum,
New York

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Flag-Burning Kit
1989

Part of a controversial window
installation at the New Museum,
New York

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Men
1994

From the exhibition *Bad Girls*
at the New Museum, New York
and UCLA Los Angeles

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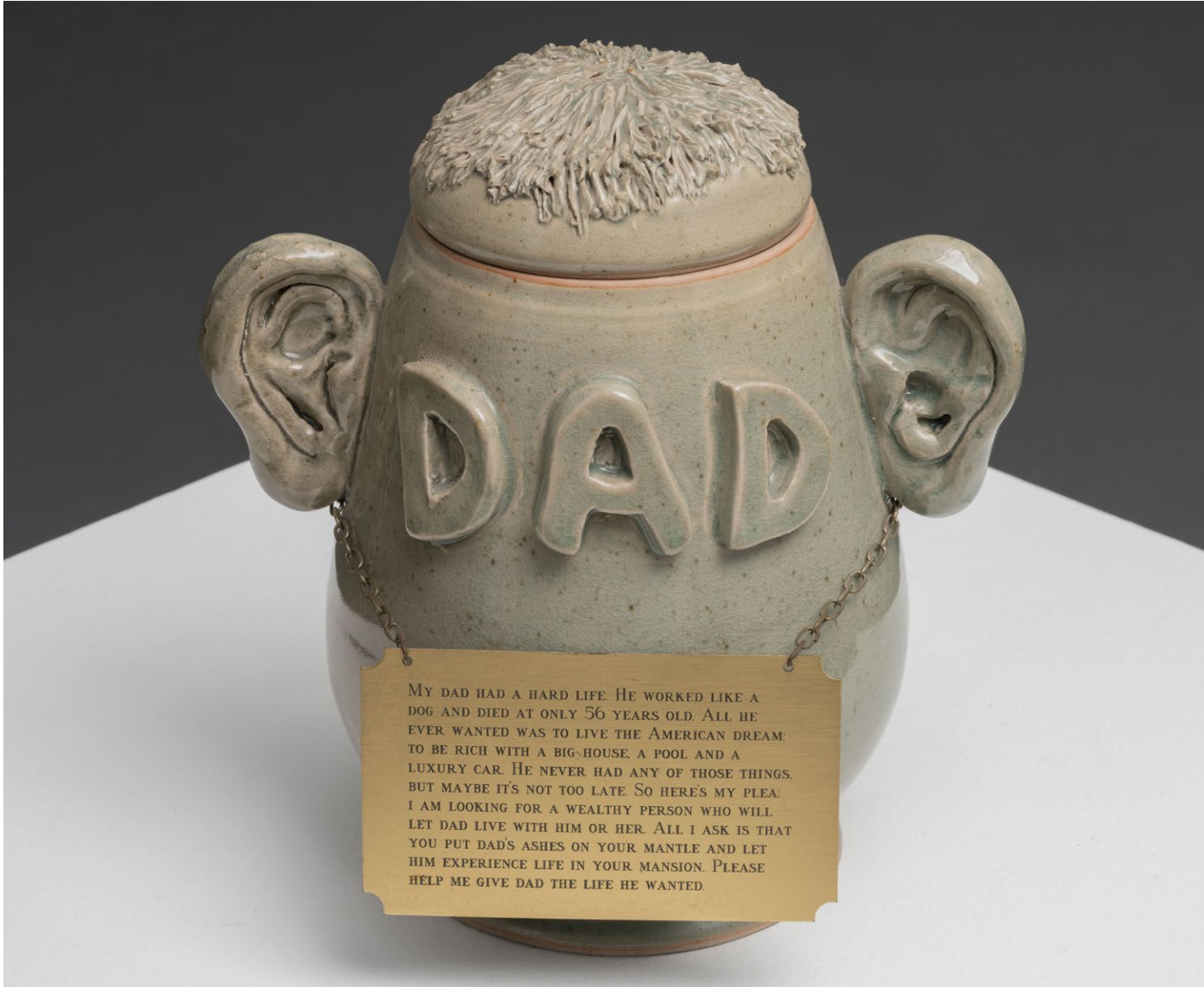
Konservative Kleenex
Acrylic on wooden box, tissues
1985

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Greetings
Boxed set of 6 greeting cards
from *House of Cards*, 1992,
solo exhibition at MoMA of 90
satirical greeting cards.
Silkscreen
1993

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Dad's Ashes
Ceramic, brass plaque and chain
2000

MY DAD HAD A HARD LIFE. HE WORKED LIKE A DOG AND DIED AT ONLY 56 YEARS OLD. ALL HE EVER WANTED WAS TO LIVE THE AMERICAN DREAM: TO BE RICH WITH A BIG HOUSE, A POOL AND A LUXURY CAR. HE NEVER HAD ANY OF THOSE THINGS. BUT MAYBE IT'S NOT TOO LATE. SO HERE'S MY PLEA: I AM LOOKING FOR A WEALTHY PERSON WHO WILL LET DAD LIVE WITH HIM OR HER. ALL I ASK IS THAT YOU PUT DAD'S ASHES ON YOUR MANTLE AND LET HIM EXPERIENCE LIFE IN YOUR MANSION. PLEASE HELP ME GIVE DAD THE LIFE HE WANTED.

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SELECTED ONE PERSON EXHIBITIONS

Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles 2023
Susan Inglett Gallery, New York 2018
Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles 2016
Zolla-Lieberman Gallery, Chicago 2015, 2008, 2001, 1994, 1991
PPOW Gallery, New York 1999, 1996, 1993, 1992, 1990, 1987, 1986
Rosamund Felsen Gallery, Los Angeles 2005, 2000, 1996, 1995, 1993,
1991, 1989, 1988, 1988, 89, 91, 93, 95, 96, 00, 05
Praz Delavallade, Paris 1997
Centre for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow 1995
Laguna Art Museum 1994
Galerie Hubert Winter, Vienna 1992
Museum of Modern Art, New York 1992
New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York 1990
Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach CA 1989

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

MCA Chicago 2022-23
Tang Museum, Skidmore 2020
Smart Museum, Chicago 2020-2-1
MOCA Los Angeles, 2019-20
San Diego Institute of Art 2019
Kopeikin Gallery, LA 2019
We Rise, LA, 2019
UNTITLED Art, San Francisco 2019
Hirshhorn Museum, Washington DC, 2018
Bunker Artspace, West Palm Beach 2018-19
Into Action, Los Angeles 2018
Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, 2018 (since 2004)
 Monument to a Bear permanent installation in sculpture
 garden
Museum Of The City Of New York, 2017-2018
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, 2017, 1991-2014
Orange County Museum of Art, 2017
Milwaukee Art Museum. 2017

Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, 2017
Susan Inglett Gallery, NY 2016
Gildar Gallery, Denver 2014
D.C. Moore Gallery, NY 2012
Stockholm Independent Art Fair, 2012
Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles 2012
California African American Museum, LA, 2013
Printed Matter, NY, A Show About CoLab, 2011
Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, WI, Sense of Humor, 2010
Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, Index:
Conceptualism in California, 2008
ICI traveling exhibition, Situation Comedy, 2005-7
Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, 2004, 1999, 1997
Milwaukee Art Museum, Artists Interrogate: Politics and War, 2004
Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Art of the Americas 1800 to Now, 2004
Laguna Art Museum, Whiteness: A Wayward Construct, 2003
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Made in California, 2000-2001
MassMoca, Massachusetts, Billboard, 1999
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, The End of the Century, 1997
New Museum, NYC: Bad Girls, 1995 Language, Drama, Source and
Vision, 1983; Not Just forLaughs, 1980
Old Glory: The American Flag in Contemporary Art,
 traveled US 1995-96, venues included Cleveland, Houston,
 Phoenix museums
Bonner Kunstverein, Bonn, Uber-Leben, 1994
Kunstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin 1992
Documenta IX, Kassel, Germany 1992
The Whitney Museum, NY, Whitney Biennial 1991, AIDS Timeline
Milwaukee Art Museum, Word As Image 1960-1990, 1990
Museum of Modern Art, NYC, Committed to Print, 1988
Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum, The Home Show, 1988

MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

Los Angeles County Museum Of Art
Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles

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San Diego Museum Of Contemporary Art
Getty Center, Los Angeles
Ucla Grunwald Center
Orange County Museum of Art
Berkeley Art Museum, University Of California
Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, Ca
Oakland Museum of California
University Art Museum, Santa Barbara
University Art Museum, Cal Sate Long Beach, Long Beach, Ca
The Jewish Museum. San Francisco
Art Institute Of Chicago
Mca Chicago
Smart Museum, University of Chicago
Museum of Modern Art, New York
The New School for Social Research, New York, NY
The Jewish Museum, New York
New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York
Tang Museum, Skidmore College
Walker Art Center, Minneapolis
Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami
National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.
Weatherspoon Art Gallery, University of North Carolina, Greensboro,
NC
Boise Art Museum
Milwaukee Art Museum
Allen Museum, Oberlin College, OH
Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH
Grand Valley State College Art Gallery, MI
Stedelijk Museum Voor Actuele Kunst, Ghent
Foundation Asher Edelman, Lausanne Fae Musée D'art Contemporain
Shoes Or No Shoes Museum, Kruishoutem, Belgium

interractive public sculpture in New York, sponsored by Creative Time,
Inc. 1984, reinstalled in New York, 2004
Billboard for Art Against Aids, San Francisco and Washington, D.C.,
1989
Two Projects Los Angeles Festival, 1990: Billboard: There Are Still
Traditional Families,
Van Nuys Boulevard, Window Installation: Have You Attacked America
Today?, Soap Plant, LA
The Wall of (Un)Fame, Los Angeles County MTA Lakewood Blvd. Green
Line Station, 1995
Under the Covers, Los Angeles Public Library, Robertson Branch, 1998
The Road to Hollywood, Hollywood & Highland, Los Angeles, 2001-
2021

PUBLIC PROJECTS

Freedom of Expression National Monument, in collaboration with
Laurie Hawkinson, architect and John Malpede, performance artist,