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CONVERSATIN' IV

an MVB project

In 1976, painter **Arnulf Rainer** created a series of works which were responses to **Franz Xaver Messerschmidt's** sculptures. Rainer called them "Conversations" with Messerschmidt.

Conversatin' IV is our forth homage to that series and a continuation of their idea.

Essentially, it is about collaboration and the sharing of ideas with people who are having similar conversations in their work.

This book is a collection of conversations that took place between **Brett Amory, Shaun Roberts, Lucien Shapiro, & Derek Weisberg** over a period of one week in Detroit, MI in April 2016.

—MVB



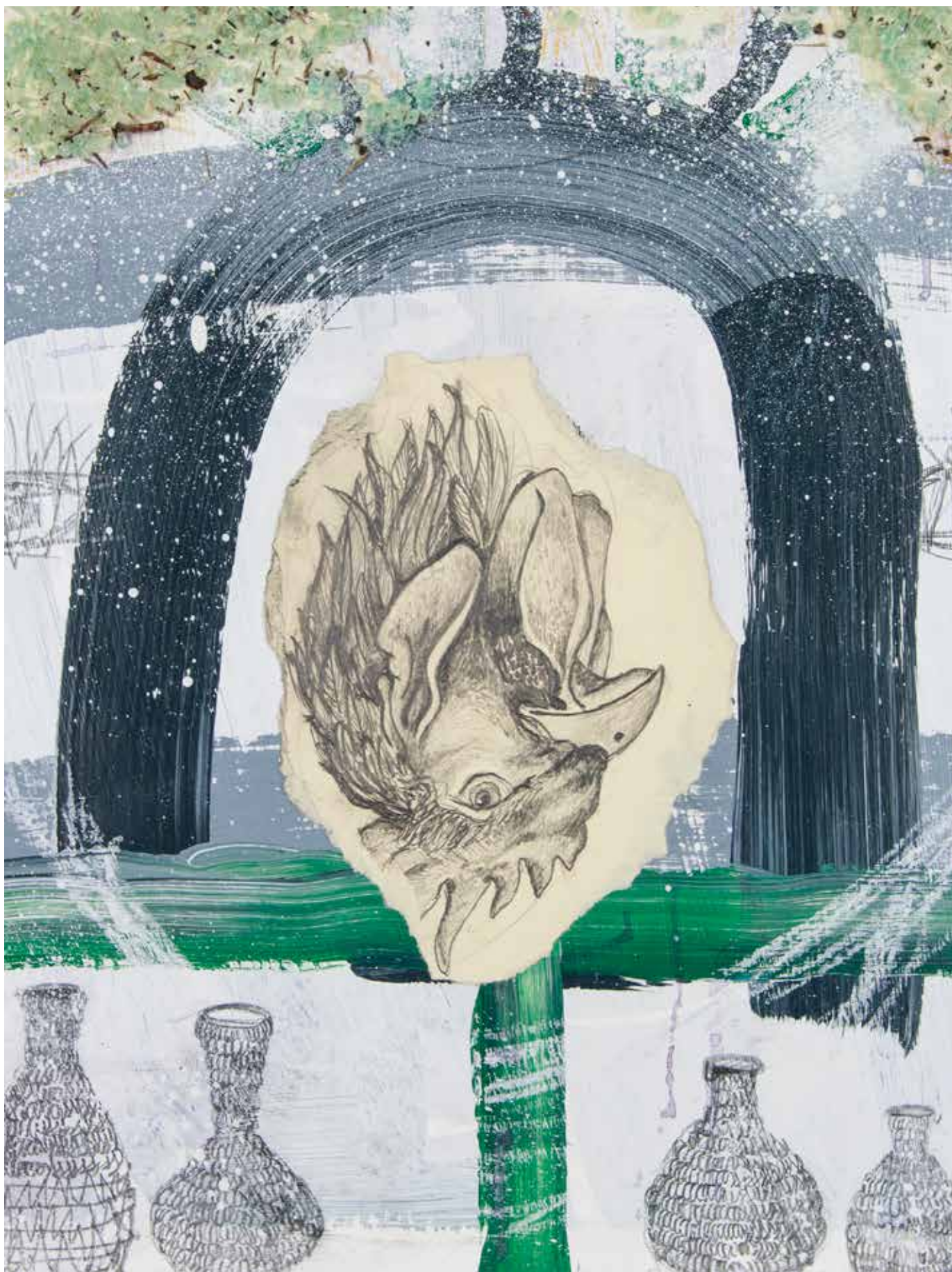
Collaborative Works



Conversatin' 4-03
Amory, Weisberg, Shapiro, Roberts
18 x 24 inches
Graphite, Acrylic, Fabric & Enamel
Spray Paint on Paper



Conversatin' 4-17
Amory, Weisberg, Shapiro, Roberts
18 x 24 inches
Graphite, Acrylic, Collaged Paper and
Oil Pastel on Paper



Conversatin' 4-18 — Detail 1



Conversatin' 4-18 — Detail 2

Conversatin' 4-18

Amory, Weisberg, Shapiro, Roberts

18 x 24 inches
 Graphite, Acrylic, Collaged Paper,
 and Street Diamonds on Paper

OVER:

Conversatin' 4-19

Amory, Weisberg, Shapiro, Roberts

(Detail)
 18 x 24 inches
 Graphite, Acrylic,
 Collaged Paper, on Paper





Conversatin' 4-08

Amory, Weisberg, Shapiro, Roberts

18 x 24 inches
Graphite, Acrylic, Oil, Collaged
Paper & Enamel Spray Paint on Paper



Conversatin' 4-20

Amory, Weisberg, Shapiro, Roberts

18 x 24 inches
Graphite, Acrylic, Oil Pastel and
Enamel Spray Paint on Paper



AS CLOUDS FROST through
 careless cordial communication
 Cassettes like jumps in Bre
 mayhem to insects cut ab
 pale lungs holding onto nre
 noble and proudly cripple
 back. Regurgitate gardens
 to clocks and correct
 and tangents crossed over
 giggles' Choke out chased
 beneath bone while it's

Conversatin' 4-21

Shapiro, Roberts

12 x 12 inches
 Archival Pigment Print and
 Graphite on Paper



Conversatin' 4-06
Amory, Weisberg, Shapiro, Roberts

(Detail)
24 x 18 inches
Acrylic & Enamel Spray Paint
on Paper



Conversatin' 4-10
Amory, Shapiro, Roberts

(Detail)
18 x 13.5 inches
Acrylic & Enamel Spray Paint
on Paper



Conversatin' 4-22

Shapiro, Roberts

13.5 x 22 inches

Archival Pigment Print, Collaged
Paper, Oil Pastel, Enamel Spray Paint
on Paper



Conversatin' 4-23

Shapiro, Roberts

(Detail)

24 x 18 inches

Archival Pigment Print
Charred by Fire



Conversatin' 4-24
Amory, Weisberg, Shapiro, Roberts

18 x 13.5 inches
Acrylic & Oil Pastel, and Enamel
Spray Paint on Paper



Conversatin' 4-25
Amory, Weisberg, Shapiro, Roberts

18 x 13.5 inches
Acrylic & Oil Pastel, and Enamel
Spray Paint on Paper

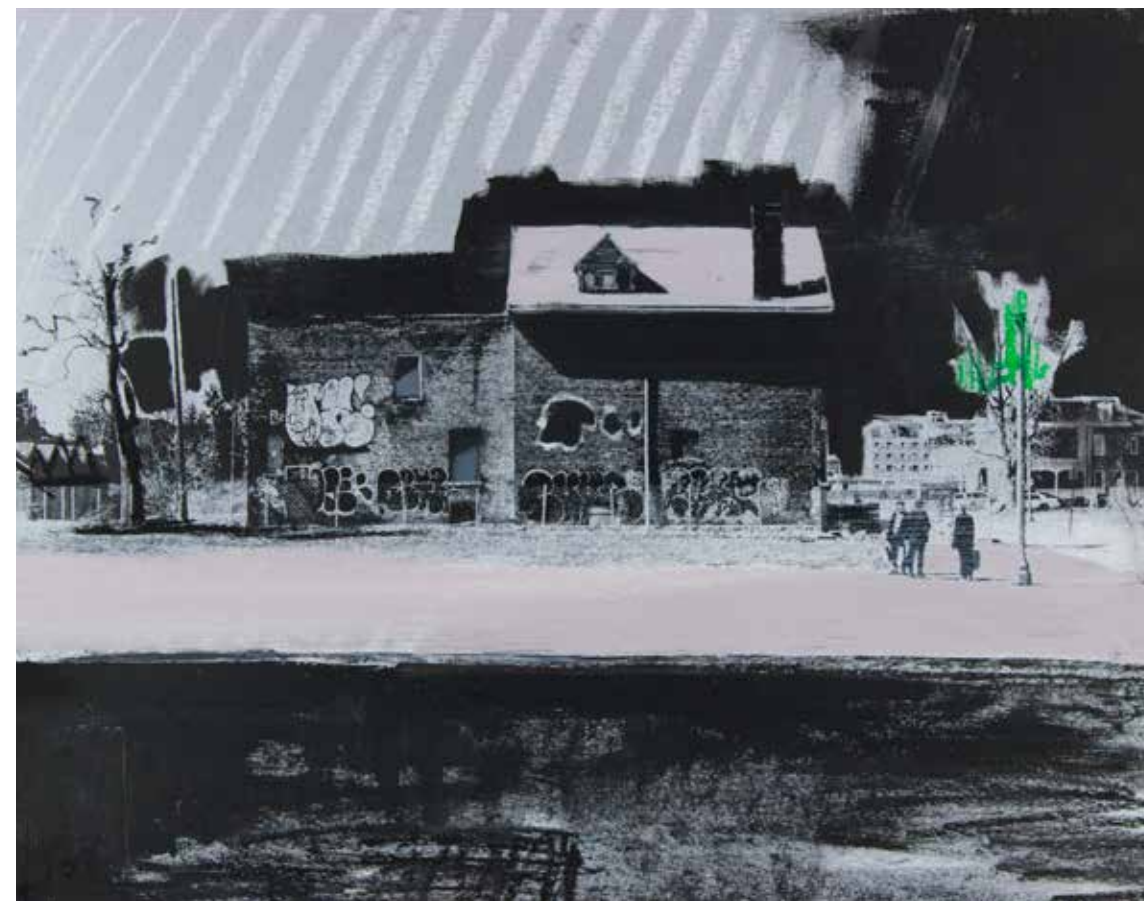


Conversatin' 4-26

Weisberg, Roberts

18 x 13.5 inches

Silkscreen, Acrylic & Oil Pastel, and
Enamel Spray Paint on Paper



Conversatin' 4-27

Amory, Roberts

18 x 13.5 inches

Silkscreen, Acrylic & Oil Pastel, and
Enamel Spray Paint on Paper

The Artists



Brett Amory

Brett Amory was born in 1975 in Chesapeake, Virginia. Relocating to San Francisco in 1994. In which Amory lived in the San Francisco's famed Tenderloin neighborhood for 15 years, altering his societal outlook and ultimately affecting his decision to become an artist. In 2009 he relocated to Oakland, California, he now calls Oakland his home.

Amory is most known for his Waiting series, which began in 2001. Interested in the ordinary, and inspired by his photographs of San Francisco's city architecture and the people he observed—seemingly always in a state of waiting. Amory on Waiting "I feel especially drawn

to individuals who look lost, lonely, or awkward—those who don't appear to fit into local societal norms."

The Waiting series illustrates how people are distracted by a constant internal dialogue, preoccupation with memories of the past and concerns for the future. Amory's work attempts to visually represent the concept of detachment and anticipation, conveying the many ideas associated with individual moments of our daily lives. From Waiting Amory would tackle other challenging and big picture topics, exploring the unromantic, unexplored and forgotten side of cities across the United States and Great Britain.



Education

2005 BFA in Fine Art from Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA

Select Solo Exhibitions

2016 *Ft. Wayne Museum*, Ft Wayne, Indiana
Internal Dialogue, Lazarides Gallery, London

2015 *This Land Is Not For Sale*,
Jonathan Levine Gallery, New York, NY

2014 *Art Basel Miami, Context*,
Jonathan Levine Gallery, Miami, FL
Anonymous #7,
Singular Gallery, Pula, Croatia
Twenty Four in London,
Lazarides Gallery, London

2013 *Twenty Four in New York*,
Jonathan Levine Gallery, New York, NY

2012 *Twenty Four in San Francisco*,
Sandra Lee Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Waiting 101, Lazarides, Newcastle, UK

2011 *White Light*, Anno Domini, San Jose, CA
Dark Light, Jonathan Levine Gallery,
New York, NY
Intentional Abstractions,
Lazarides Outsiders, London

2010 *Suburban Anticipations*,
Sandra Lee Gallery, San Francisco,
The Waiting Room,
Thinkspace, Los Angeles, CA

Select Group Exhibitions

2016 *National Portrait Gallery*, London
Lancaster Museum of Art & History,
Lancaster, CA

2015 *Fort Wayne Museum of Art*, Fort Wayne, IN

2014 *Symposium International*,
Baie-Saint-Paul, Quebec
LAX/TXL, Urban Nation, Berlin, Germany
Juxtapoz Anniversary,
Jonathan Levine Gallery, New York, NY
San Francisco Art Fair,
Hashimoto Contemporary, SF, CA

2013 *Art Basel Miami, Scope*,
Hashimoto Contemporary, Miami, FL

Residencies

2017 *De Young Museum*, San Francisco, CA

2016 *Ft. Wayne Museum*, Ft Wayne, IN

2014 *Symposium International*,
Baie-Saint-Paul, Quebec

Awards & Juried Shows

2016 *BP Award*, National Portrait Gallery, London
Short List for BP Travel Grant

2014 *Distinguished Alumni Award*,
Academy of Arts University

2012 *Goldie Award*, San Francisco Guardian
Nominated for SECA (Society for the
Encouragement of Contemporary Art)
SFMOMA

2010 *1st Place, New Beginnings*,
Blue Canvas Magazine
Nominated for SECA (Society for the
Encouragement of Contemporary Art)
SFMOMA

2009 *First Place*, Art Interview
International Competition





Lucien Shapiro

Lucien Shapiro was born in 1979, in Santa Rosa, CA. He attended San Francisco Academy of Art University and received a BFA in 2003. It was here where Shapiro became addicted to the process of painstaking repetition and meticulous attention to craft.

Shortly after his time at school, Shapiro developed a practice he calls "**Urban Obsessions**", which explores both artist's and viewer's perception of identity, addiction, time, and loss. He composes elaborately constructed masks and ornately armored weaponry and vessels, which examines a relationship between modern waste and memories of ancient cultural artifacts. Practices and customs from the past are brought back to light through his revival of discarded materials, transformed into objects analogous with self-protection. A laborious craft and meditative consumption of time,

transforms forgotten objects into nostalgically interesting and beautiful relics that compel viewers to re-evaluate what our everyday possessions represent and mean to us.

Shapiro's work was included in the December 2013 issue of Juxtapoz Magazine, and he has shown nationally and internationally. Most recently, the objects he creates are being utilized in various symbolic rituals that are performed and filmed. Recent live stage performances include a 30 plus city world tour entitled "A Fools Journey", Coachella 2015, Kaaboo 2015, and Art Direction behind the GLK Experience video covered by Rolling Stone.



Education

2003 BFA in Sculpture from Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA

Select Solo Exhibitions

2016 30 City Traveling Performance
"A Fools Journey"

2014 "The Wore", CES Gallery Project Room,
Los Angeles, CA

2013 "Vessel", Guerrero Gallery Project Room
San Francisco, CA 2012
"Relics of the New World", Cassel Gallery,
San Francisco, CA

Select Group Exhibitions

2016 "ANEW", Hashimoto Contemporary,
San Francisco, CA

2015 "Primitive Future" Subliminal Projects,
Los Angeles, CA
"Spider in the Belly of the Goat Installation",
Kaaboo Festival, San Diego, CA
"Full Circle", window installation and
performance, RVCA, San Francisco, CA
"GLK Experience" Live stage Performance,
Coachella Festival, Coachella, CA
Summer Group Show, Hashimoto
Contemporary, San Francisco, CA
"Hand Made", Lazarides Gallery,
London, England
"Six Degrees", Fecal Face Gallery,
San Francisco, CA
"Platinum Cheese" curated show, Modern
Edan Gallery, San Francisco, CA
"Supersonic Electronic" curated show,
Hashimoto Contemporary, San Francisco, CA
"The Winter Mitten Society", Jonathan Levine,
New York, NY

2014 "Egregore", Yves Laroche Gallery,
Montreal, Canada
"Ascension", Incline Gallery,
San Francisco, CA
"Home At Last", Guerrero Gallery,
San Francisco, CA
"Natural Balance", New Image Gallery,
Los Angeles, CA
"Skull Show", Bedford Gallery,
Walnut Creek, CA
"EK Summer", 111 Minna Gallery,
San Francisco, CA
"Two", Compound Project, Malibu, CA
"5 year Anniversary", Ever Gold,
San Francisco, CA
LA Art Show Fair, Varnish gallery,
Los Angeles, CA

2013 Bold Hype, New York, NY Known Gallery,
Los Angeles, CA
"Group Show Vol. 3" Gildar Gallery,
Denver, CO

2012 "Winter Group Show", Guerrero Gallery,
San Francisco, CA
"Zero Friends", Group Show, Zero Friends
HQ, Oakland, CA
"Supernatural", Wonderland Gallery,
San Francisco, CA

2011 "American Made" Cassel Gallery,
San Francisco, CA
"Swampy", Million Fishes Gallery,
San Francisco, CA
"Majesty" Wonderland Gallery,
San Francisco, CA

2010 "Fresh Produce", Anno Domini Gallery,
San Jose, CA
"Dance magic Dance", R & R Gallery,
Los Angeles, CA
"Turkana Window", Wes Smoot Annex
Gallery, Oakland, CA





Derek Weisberg

Derek Weisberg was born in 1983, in Santa Rosa CA. At age 7 he began working in ceramics, which was the beginning of his lifelong love and ultimate passion. He unwaveringly pursued ceramics sculpture throughout his childhood and teens, in Benicia, CA, where he was raised. At age 18 he moved to Oakland, CA, to pursue his love for ceramics and art in general and attended California College of Arts and Crafts. It was there that he developed a strong and distinct aesthetic, focusing on emotional and psychological figurative sculpture. The sculptures were not represented like a photo, instead achieved a naturalistic, heartfelt, from the gut sensibility.

Accessibility is key in attempt to express basic human qualities, which

are universal and timeless. At its core the work reflects humanist ideology; searching for truth and universal morality based on the commonality of the human condition.

Weisberg is specifically interested in expressing conditions of longing, loss, dysfunction, fragility, vulnerability and melancholy.

For Weisberg, making art is an attempt to make sense of his own life, experiences, and the times in which he lives. In 2006, when his mother passed away he began to include themes of death, afterlife, spirituality and the metaphysical into the work. Themes of death are explored through expressing life, and the work became a combination and slow digestion of all these dualities and subtleties.

In 2011 Weisberg moved to New York, where he currently lives and works.



Education

2005 BFA in ceramics, California College of Arts and Crafts, Oakland CA

Select Solo & Two-Person Exhibitions

- 2014 "Life Blood", Church Boutique, Los Angeles, CA
"Intertidal Zone", Goosebarnacle Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
"Saving Face", Lyons Weir Gallery, New York, NY
- 2012 "Porcelain Promises", Greenwich House Pottery, New York, NY 2011
"Auroral Dreaming", Anno Domini Gallery, San Jose, CA,
"You Were Almost Extinct Again", San Francisco University High, San Francisco, CA
- 2010 "You Were Almost Extinct Too", Florida Atlantic University, John D. Macarthur Library Gallery, Jupiter, FL
- 2009 "Mine Us One", with James Kirkpatrick, Hatch Gallery, Oakland, CA
"The Moth, The Flame, and The Returning Comet" with Matt Rebholz, Space 1026, Philadelphia, PA
"Olam Habu The World To Come," Rowan Morrison Gallery, Oakland, CA
"The Moth, The Flame, and the Returning Comet, part 2", Stumble Upon Office, San Francisco, CA
- 2008 "Sugar and Spice and Everything's Not So Nice" with Crystal Morey, Young Blood Gallery, Atlanta, GA
"Victoria Everlasting," Anno Domini, San Jose CA
- 2007 Two-person exhibit with Stan Welsh, 12 & Taylor Gallery, San Jose, CA
"Often Forgotten" with Mike Simpson, Boonling Gallery, Oakland, CA

Select Group Exhibitions

- 2016 NY, NY: CLAY, Clay Art Center, Portchester, NY
- 2015 Summer Group Show, Hashimoto Contemporary, San Francisco, CA
Tomorrows Today, Brilliant Champions Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2014 "Odins Eye", Nordic Heritage Museum, Seattle, WA
"G40", Blind Whino, Washington DC
- 2013 "Mutual Friends", Parentheses Gallery, Halifax, Canada
"STUMP", Thomas Hunter Project Space, Hunter College, NY, NY
SF Art Fair, Spoke Art Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2012 "Self Contained", Northern Clay Center, Minneapolis, MN
- 2011 "Modern Fabulists", View Gallery, Bristol, UK

Residencies

- 2015 Gallagher/Perry Residency for Ceramics, Oakland, CA
Prattville Art Center, Prattville, NY
- 2011 Fountainhead Residency, Miami, FL
- 2009 Penland School School of Crafts, Bakersville, NC

Awards

- 2012 Individual Grant Recipient, Belle Foundation
- 2008 Searchlight Artist, 1 of 10 nationally selected emerging Craftsmen/women





Shaun Roberts

Shaun Roberts was born in 1979, in Bangkok, Thailand. Born to an American father and Thai mother, Shaun was raised in the urban chaos of Bangkok with a foot in the East & the West. His insatiable curiosity as a child for myriad subjects—ranging from building his own computers to spending countless hours painting in the high-school art room—eventually shaped him into a visual arts polymath.

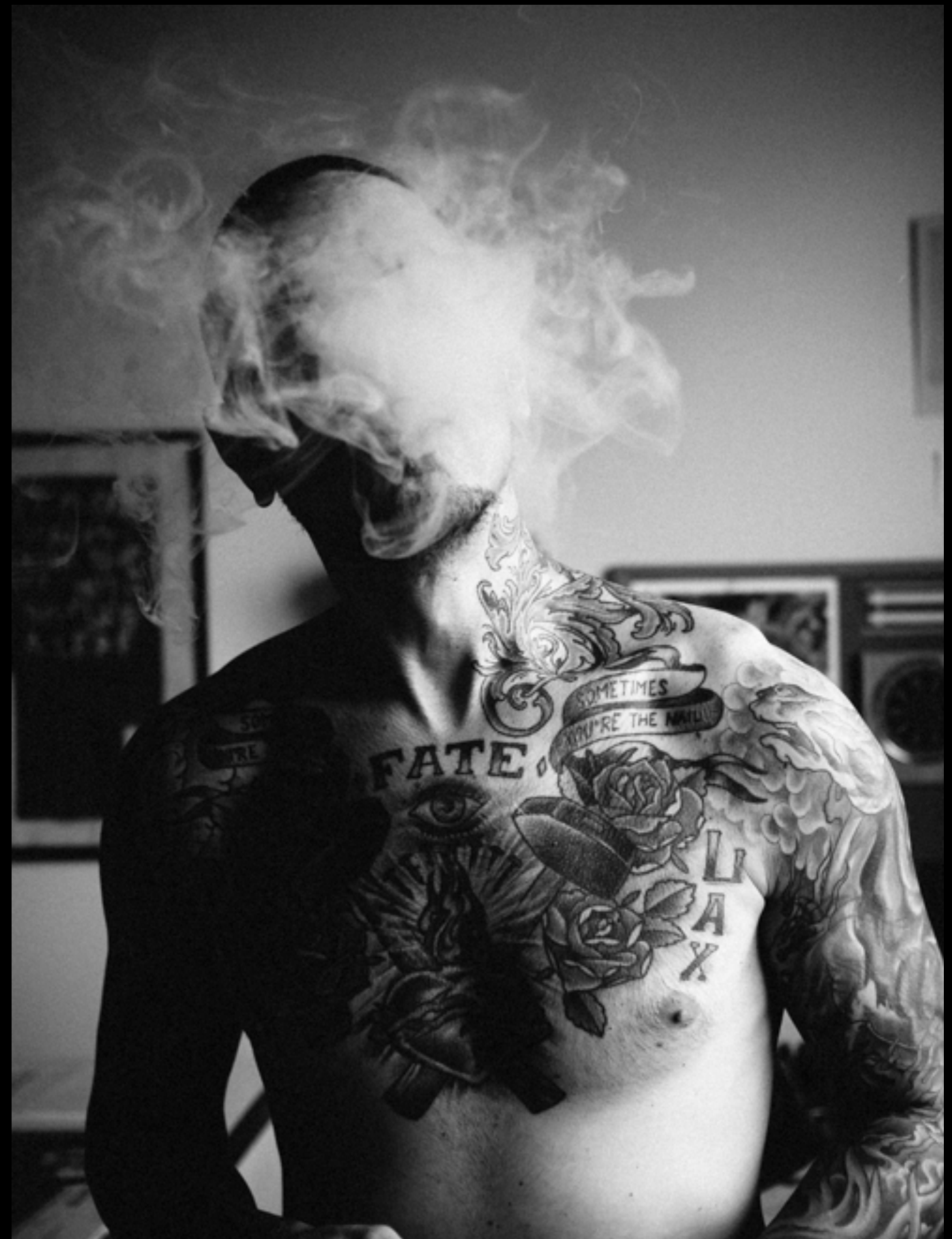
At age 18 he moved to San Francisco, CA to continue studying digital arts at the Academy of Art University where he pursued his passion in graphic design, typography, printmaking, interaction design, motion graphics, photography, and filmmaking. During his time at AAU he was awarded the Adobe Design Achievement Award

at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, NYC for his project “Bay Area Exports”. He graduated Valedictorian of his undergraduate class in 2003 with a BFA in New Media.

It was not until after graduating that Shaun discovered his artistic voice. Deeply affected by the passing of his grandfathers (both photographers), Shaun began to explore still photography with renewed fervor. Roberts turned his attention towards documenting the lives and working spaces of artists.

Shaun believes the act of seeing can be an act of compassion, able to ultimately tease out fragments of truth, and elucidating glimpses of the moments of beauty, mystery and dignity of the human experience.

The multidisciplinary nature of Shaun’s art has lead him to working with leading publications and art institutions.



Education

2003 BFA in New Media (Valedictorian),
Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA

Solo Exhibition

2015 "Ground of Being", Hashimoto Contemporary,
San Francisco, CA

Group Exhibitions

2016 "The Detrouiter", Heron Arts, San Francisco, CA

2014 "Half the Story", 63 Bluxome Gallery,
San Francisco, CA
"Glass Eye", 63 Bluxome Gallery,
San Francisco, CA

2013 "Wes Smoot & The 49ers", Anno Domini,
San Jose, CA

2009 "The End is Near...", Babylon Falling,
San Francisco, CA

2011 "Urban Osmosis", Lopo Gallery,
San Francisco, CA

2004 "TOMATO Global Workshop: RISD",
Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI

Select Screenings

2015 "Analects Trilogy" (with Lucien Shapiro),
Multiple Venues, United States

2013 "Dear Texas Highways", IOAKal Gallery,
Oakland, CA
"Dear Texas Highways", The Directors Lounge,
Berlin, Germany

2012 "24 in San Francisco" (with Brett Amory),
Sandra Lee Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2009 "Dear Texas Highways", Athens International
Film Festival
"Dear Texas Highways", Black Maria Film
Festival, Jersey City, NJ

"Dear Texas Highways", SXSW, Austin, TX

2008 "Aesop Rock - None Shall Pass, Tour Visuals",
Multiple Venues, United States

2007 "The Run Up", Rooftop Cinema,
Melbourne, Australia

2006 "The Run Up", Global Gallery,
Sydney, Australia
"The Run Up", Bar of Contemporary Art,
San Francisco, CA
"The Run Up", Fifty 24 Gallery,
San Francisco, CA
"Sneaker Pimps: NYC", Avalon,
New York City, NY

2005 "Sneaker Pimps: Thailand", Bed Supperclub,
Bangkok, Thailand

Select Clients

The Arion Press
BC Cancer Foundation
The Bold Italic
CAT Footwear
Condé-Nast
DC Shoe Co.
Definitive Jux
Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco
Gannett Company, Inc.
GQ Magazine
Hangar 18
Hi-Fructose Magazine
The Jewish General Hospital Foundation
Juxtapoz Magazine
Oakland Museum of California
The Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation
Red Bull Media House
Ride Snowboards
San Francisco Magazine
Stark Raving Black Productions
Stanford Graduate School of Business
Stanford Live
University of Tennessee
Upper Playground
Wired.com

