

BUZZ SPECTOR

Lives and works in St. Louis, Missouri

BIOGRAPHY

Buzz Spector is an artist and critical writer whose artwork has been shown in such museums as the Art Institute of Chicago, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, and the Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh, PA. Spector's work makes frequent use of the book, both as subject and object, and is concerned with relationships between public history, individual memory, and perception. He has issued a number of artists' books and editions since the mid-1970s, including, most recently, White Insistence, a limited edition collaboration with poet Michael Burkhart self-published by the artist in 2009. Other Spector publications include Time Square, a limited edition letterpress book hand altered by the artist and published in 2007 by Pyracantha Press and ABBA at Arizona State University in Tempe, Between the Sheets, a limited edition book of images and text published in 2004 by The Ink Shop Printmaking Center in Ithaca, NY, and Details: closed to open, an artists' book of photographic details from images in the Swarthmore College Peace Collection, (List Art Gallery, Swarthmore College, 2001).

Spector was a co-founder of WhiteWalls, a magazine of writings by artists, in Chicago in 1978, and served as the publication's editor until 1987. Since then he has written extensively on topics in contemporary art and culture, and has contributed reviews and essays to a number of publications, including American Craft, Artforum, Art Issues, Art on Paper, Exposure, and New Art Examiner. He is the author of Buzzwords: Interviews with Buzz Spector, just out from Sara Ranchouse Publishing, Chicago. Earlier books include The Book Maker's Desire, critical essays on topics in contemporary art and artists' books (Umbrella Editions, 1995), and numerous exhibition catalogue essays, including Luis Camnitzer: Forewords and Last Words (Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, 2011) and Conrad Bakker: untitled mail order catalogue (Creative Capital, Inc., 2002).

Spector's most recent recognition is a 2005 New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA Fellowship). In 1991 he was awarded a Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Fellowship, and in 1982, 1985, and 1991 he received National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship Awards. He is Dean of the College and Graduate School of Art in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts at Washington University in St. Louis.

EDUCATION

- 1978 University of Chicago, M.F.A., Committee on Art and Design
1972 Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, B.A., Art

SELECTED ONE PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 “Buzz Spector: Off the Shelf,” book installations, Grunwald Gallery,
Indiana University, Bloomington, IN (catalogue)
“Malevich: with 8 Red Rectangles,” installation, Bruno David Gallery, St. Louis, MO
- 2011 “Buzz Spector,” Zolla-Lieberman Gallery, Chicago
- 2010 “Shelf Life: selected work,” Bruno David Gallery, St. Louis, MO (catalogue)
- 2009 “Buzz Spector: Cards and Letters: Postcard works 1973-2000,” Gahlberg Gallery,
College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, IL (catalogue)
Libreria al ferro di cavallo, Rome, Italy
- 2008 Urban Institute for Contemporary Art, Grand Rapids, MI
Zolla-Lieberman Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2005 “Panorama (Forest of Signs),” one of five public art projects, Contemporary &
Classic Art Fair, Navy Pier, Chicago, IL (installation)
Zolla-Lieberman Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2004 Marsha Mateyka Gallery, Washington, DC
- 2003 Zolla-Lieberman Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2001 Cristinerose | Josée Bienvenu Gallery, New York
“Public/Private Peace,” List Art Gallery, Swarthmore College, PA
(installation with catalogue)
- 2000 Marsha Mateyka Gallery, Washington, DC
- 1999 Zolla-Lieberman Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1998 “Beautiful Scenes: Selections from the Cranbrook Archives by Buzz Spector,”
Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI (installation with catalogue)
Cristinerose | Josée Bienvenu Gallery, New York (catalogue)
Marsha Mateyka Gallery, Washington, DC
- 1997 Kerlin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
- 1996 Zolla-Lieberman Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1996 Marsha Mateyka Gallery, Washington, DC
- 1995 Angles Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
Roy Boyd Gallery, Chicago

- 1994 "Unpacking my Library," inSITE'94, San Diego State University Art Gallery, CA
 "Unpacking my Library," Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH
- 1992 fiction/nonfiction, New York
 Laurence Miller Gallery, New York
 "Bibliography," Fisher Gallery, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA (installation)
- 1992 Roy Boyd Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
- 1991 "Cold Fashioned Room," Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh, PA (installation)
- 1990 "Buzz Spector: New California Artist XVII," Newport Harbor Art Museum (now Orange County Museum of Art), Newport Beach, CA (installation with catalogue)
- 1988 "The Library of Babel," The Art Institute of Chicago, IL (installation with catalogue)

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 "Blue – White – Red," Bruno David Gallery, St. Louis, MO
- 2011 "Write Now: Artists and Letterforms," Chicago Cultural Center
- 2010 "Overpaper," Bruno David Gallery, St. Louis, MO (catalogue)
 "The Book: A Contemporary View," Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, Wilmington, DE (catalogue)
 "Something Geographical: Vernon Fisher, Xiaoze Xie, Buzz Spector," Zolla-Lieberman Gallery, Chicago (Traveled to South Bend Museum of Art, South Bend, IN)
- 2009 "Text/Messages: books by artists," Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN
- 2008 "ARAC@AAM," Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, CO (catalogue)
- 2007 ". . . one more thing added to the world: the Borges Effect in contemporary artists' books," Old Capitol Museum, Iowa City, IA
- 2006 "Why Lee Shot C: Buzz, she left'em Vernon!" Zolla-Lieberman Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2005 "Library," Contemporary Art Galleries, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
- 2002 "Life Death Love Hate Pleasure Pain," Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL (catalogue)
- 1998 "Testo e Contesto: il libro-ambiente (Text and Context: the book as attitude)," Accademia d'Ungheria, Palazzo Falconieri, Rome, Italy (installation with catalogue)
 "Chicago Hip," Rocket Gallery, London, UK
- 1996 "Art in Chicago: 1945-1995," Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL (catalogue)
- 1992 "Knowledge: Aspects of Conceptual Art," University Art Museum, University of California-Santa Barbara, CA (traveling exhibit with catalogue)
- 1990 "Transgressions: Donald Lipski and Buzz Spector," Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC (catalogue)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS BY THE ARTIST

- 2012 *BUZZWORDS: interviews with Buzz Spector*, Chicago: Sara Ranchose Publishing: 104 pp.
- 2011 “Xu Bing: Words of Art,” essay in Hochtritt, Lisa, Ploof, John, and Quinn, Therese, eds. *Culture as Commons: Art and Social Justice Education*, School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Routledge/Taylor: pp. 65-67.
 “Forewords and Last Words: An Interview,” in *Luis Camnitzer: Forewords and Last Words* (exhibition catalogue), Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, Washington University, St. Louis, MO
 “I stack things. I tear stuff up.” Essay in *Buzz Spector: Shelf Life* (exhibition catalogue), Bruno David Gallery, St. Louis, MO: pp: 2-6.
- 2010 “Buzz Spector,” essay in Jacob, Mary Jane, and Grabner, Michelle, eds. *The Studio Reader*, School of the Art Institute of Chicago and University of Chicago Press: pp. 17-20.
- 2008 “Shard Experience,” essay in *New Glass Review 29*, Corning Museum of Glass, Corning, NY: 70-72, 87-90.
- 2006 “Moremoremore and more so,” essay in *Sang-ah Choi: moremoremore* (exh. cat.), University Galleries, Illinois State University: n.p.
- 2001 *Between the Sheets*, artists’ book of text/images, edition 40 plus 12 letter copies, published by the artist and The Ink Shop/Olive Branch Press, Ithaca, NY
- 2002 “Conrad Bakker’s Vernacular Simulation,” essay in *Untitled: Mail Order Catalogue*, Conrad Bakker and Creative Capital, Inc., New York
- 2001 *Details: closed to open*, photographic artists’ book of details from images in the Swarthmore College Peace Collection, edition 3,000, published by Swarthmore College and Buzz Spector
 “Installing at the Mattress Factory: a reminiscence,” essay in Giannini, Claudia, Ed., *Mattress Factory 1990-1999*, Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2001: 10-14.
- 1998 *Beautiful Scenes: selections from the Cranbrook Archives*, artist-designed exhibition catalogue, edition 600, plus 24 deluxe, published by Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI
- 1995 *The Book Maker’s Desire: writings on the art of the book*, Santa Monica, CA: Umbrella Editions: 84 pp.
- 1994 *A Passage*, artists’ book, hand-altered text block in cloth over boards, edition 48, published by Granary Books, New York
- 1990 “Ann Hamilton’s Situations of Desire,” essay in *Ann Hamilton: Sao Paulo – Seattle*, (exh. cat.) Seattle, WA: Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington
 “In Flux,” artist’s statement for *Connections: Explorations in the Getty Center Collections by Raymond Pettibon, Ed Ruscha, Alexis Smith, and Buzz Spector*, (exh. cat.), Santa Monica, CA: Getty Research Center
- 1978-87 Editor, *WhiteWalls: a magazine of writings by artists*, Chicago

CURATORIAL PROJECTS

- 2012 "TRADITION! (as uttered by Zero Mostel in *Fiddler on the Roof*),"
Regional Arts Commission Gallery, St. Louis, MO
- 2011 "Luis Camnitzer: Forewords and Last Words," Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum,
Washington University, St. Louis, MO
- 2003-present "Pages," ongoing series of exhibitions of artworks in non-book form using the page as a
conceptual armature. Venues include: I space, Chicago (2005) and
Cristinerose | Josée Bienvenu Gallery, New York (2003)
- 2007 "...one more thing added to the World: the Borges Effect in contemporary artists' books,"
Old Capitol Museum, University of Iowa, IA
- 2001 "Apocalypse Next Week: Scott Anderson, Brent Coles, Eric Huebsch, and Hannah Israel,"
(co-curator with Linda Robbenolt) I space, Chicago, IL
- 1999 "The Plethora Effect: Todd Allison, Jill Daves, Anne Howard, Kevin Kaempf, and
Andrew Shirk," I space, Chicago, IL
"MAXX'99," Memphis-area biennial exhibition, University of Memphis Museum of Art
- 1992 "Fluid Measure," group exhibition sponsored by Nomadic Site Project, Hollywood Branch,
Los Angeles Public Library, CA
- 1992 "In Flux," in Connections: Explorations in the Getty Center Collections by Raymond Pettibon,
Ed Ruscha, Alexis Smith, and Buzz Spector, Getty Research Institute,
Santa Monica, CA
- 1981 "Words as Images," (co-curator with Reagan Upshaw) The Renaissance Society,
University of Chicago, IL
- 1980 "Objects and Logotypes: relationships between minimalist art and corporate design,"
The Renaissance Society, University of Chicago, IL

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2005 Artist's Fellowship, New York Foundation for the Arts
- 2004 Von Hess Visiting Artist, University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA
- 1991 Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Award
Fellowship Award, National Endowment for the Arts
- 1988 Visual Artist's Fellowship, Illinois Arts Council
- 1985 Fellowship Award, National Endowment for the Arts
- 1982 Fellowship Award, National Endowment for the Arts

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY SINCE 2001

- 2012 Salamony, Sandra, with Thomas, Peter and Donna. *1000 Artists' Books*, Minneapolis, MN: Quarry Books, 40 (illus.).
- 2011 Yood, James. "Buzz Spector: 'Manual Style' at Zolla/Lieberman Gallery," *Art Ltd.* (November-December 2011):31 (illus.).
Stewart, Garrett. *Bookwork: medium to object to concept art*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press (illus.)
- 2010 Pierno, Rosa. "Buzz Spector," in *La dimora del tempo sospeso* [The dwelling of suspended time]. <http://rebstein.wordpress.com/2010/01/11/buzz-spector/>
Moynihan, Miriam. "Artist's books speak volumes," *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, January 17, (illus.).
Russell, Stefene. "The Breath at the Bottom of the Page," *St. Louis Magazine*, Vol. 16, issue 1 (January 2010): 176-77 (illus.).
Baran, Jessica. "Buzz Spector: Shelf Life," *Riverfront Times*, February 11: 29.
- 2009 Carroll-Hackett, Mary, Kushman, Kerri, Parnell, Catherine, eds. *The Poet & the Artist's Book* (exh. cat.), Longwood University, Farmville, VA, and Pierre Menard Gallery, Cambridge, MA.
"Michael Burkard/Buzz Spector," 47-52 (illus.).
Lyons, Joan, ed. *Artists' Books: Visual Studies Workshop Press 1971-2008*, Rochester, NY: Visual Studies Workshop Press, 108 (illus.).
Rusworth, Katherine. "Bonanza of Books: Schweinfurth explores books as media, subject and object," *Syracuse Post-Standard*, May 10, Stars 11.
Kuhl, Nancy. "Day by Day: Phylum Press, Poetry, & Ephemera," essay in *American Letters & Commentary*, Issue 20: 124-134 (illus.)
- 2008 Kimelman, Molly. "New exhibits adorn UICA," *Grand Rapids Press*, December 21 (illus.).
Schwartz, Wylie. "Revisioning Art," *Ithaca Times*, September 10-16: 21 (illus.).
Stewart, Garrett. "Mere Beauty," essay in Fischer, Mirjam, ed., *The Most Beautiful Swiss Books 2007* (exh. cat.), Swiss Federal Office of Culture, Bern, Switzerland, 126-127 (illus.).
- 2008 Smith, Champe, editor and curator, *Mapping Correspondence: Mail Art in the 21st Century* (exh. cat.), Center for Book Arts, 15, 31 (illus.).
Whitman, Arthur. "Visiting old favorites," *Ithaca Times*, March 19: 21.
Foumberg, Jason with Larson-Walker, Lisa. "The Bookish Type," *New City Chicago*, January 8: <http://www.newcitychicago.com/chicago/7317.html>
- 2007 Stewart, Garrett. "Lector/Spector: Borges and the Bibliobjet," *Variaciones Borges 24*, 2007, University of Iowa: 173-196.
Pickowicz, Natasha Li. "Practicing the Art of Integration: Buzz Spector wants to bring Cornell, Ithaca art appreciation together," *Ithaca Times*, April 11-17: cover, 8-9 (illus.).
Hubert, Judd D. and Sahak, Judy Harvey. "A Poetic Coup d'Etat: Mallarmé's Influence On Artists' Books," in *Mallarmé's Coup d'Etat* (exh. cat.), Clark Humanities Museum and Ella Strong Denison Library, Scripps College, Claremont, CA: 43.
- 2006 David, Elliott. "Finally, Buzz Spector," *Bookslut.com*, Art Slut Column, December 2006: http://www.bookslut.com/art_slut/2006_12_010340.php
Hawkins, Margaret. "Clever pieces show that by the word, it's still art," *Chicago Sun Times*, April 28, 2006: NC45.

- 2005
 Brollo, Deirdre. "An Open Book: The Artist's Book and Palimpsestic Space," essay in Gerbaz, Alex and Mayes, Roby, eds., *Palimpsests: Transforming Communities*, Perth, Australia: Division of Humanities, Curtin University, 9, 13, 15 (illus.).
 Hiebert, Helen. "New Paperworks by Buzz Spector," *Hand Papermaking*, Vol. 20, no. 2 (Winter 2005): 42-43 (illus.).
 Bright, Betty. *No Longer Innocent: Book Art in America, 1960-1980*, New York: Granary Books, 2005: 10-11, 42, 227, 253 (illus.).
 Camper, Fred. "Brute Materiality," *Chicago Reader*, September 9, 2005: Section 2, 26 (illus.).
- 2004
 "First Impression: Buzz Spector, Between the Sheets, 2003," *Art on Paper*, Vol. 8, no. 5 (May/June 2004): 42 (illus.).
 Bury, Stephen. "On the Royal Road," *Art Monthly* (UK), No. 274 (March 2004): 39.
 Church, Amanda. "Pages at Cristinerose / Josée Bienvenu Gallery," *Art on Paper*, Vol. 8, no. 4 (March/April 2004): 84 (illus.).
 Dawson, Jessica. "Picture Books," *Washington Post*, February 19, 2004: C05 (illus.).
- 2003
 Sholis, Brian. "Pages," *Artforum.com*, Picks, 12-18-03:
<http://www.artforum.com/archive/id=6057&search=Pages>
 Cutajar, Mario. "Paintings by Letters," *ArtScene*, Los Angeles.
 Geyer, Nancy. "Booked Solid: artist Buzz Spector Turns Books into sculptural objects," *Ithaca Times*, September 24-30: 17 (illus.).
- 2002
 Hirsch, Faye. "Working Proof: Buzz Spector, as if," *Art on Paper*, Vol. 7, no. 2 (November 2002): 83-84 (illus.).
 Packard, Andrea, "Framing Space for Peace," and Fineberg, Jonathan, "Buzz Spector's Lists," essays in *Buzz Spector: Public/Private Peace: Selections from the Swarthmore College Peace Collection* (exh. cat.), List Art Gallery, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA: 40 pp (illus.).
 Roots, Garrison. *Designing the World's Best Public Art*, Mulgrave, Victoria, Australia: The Images Publishing Group Pty Ltd, 148-149 (illus.).
 JRW [Julie Rodrigues Widholm]. "Buzz Spector," in *Life Death Love Hate Pleasure Pain: Selected Works from the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Collection* (exh. cat.), Chicago: 234-35 (illus.).
 Hyde, James. "Buzz Spector at Cristinerose," *Art in America*, April 2002: 148-49 (illus.).
 Princenthal, Nancy. "Artists' Book Beat," *Art on Paper*, Vol. 6, no. 4 (March/April 2002): 99.
 Cohen, Keri Guten. "Polaroids capture book still lifes," *Detroit Free Press*, February 3, 2002: 6E (illus.).
- 2001
 Westbrook, Adele, ed. *A Creative Legacy: A History of the National Endowment for the Arts Visual Artists' Fellowship Program*, New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 2001: 200 (illus.).
 Mendelson, Jordana. "Introduction: Postcards from Albums to the Academy?" *Visual Resources*, Vol. XVII: 373-382 (illus.).
 Donohoe, Victoria. "Photography exhibit focuses on images of peace in history," *Philadelphia Inquirer*, November 18, 2001: H (illus.).
 Johnson, Ken. "Buzz Spector," *New York Times*, October 5, 2001: E32.
 Latter, Ruth. "Pictorial Vocabulary spells out one of best shows in town," *Daily Progress*, Charlottesville, VA, March 15, 2001: D2.

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Albright-Knox Art Museum, Buffalo, NY
The Art Institute of Chicago, IL
The British Library, London, England
Brooklyn Museum of Art Library, NY
Chicago Public Library, IL
Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC
Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI
Getty Research Institute Library, Santa Monica, CA
Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Illinois State Museum, Springfield
Jersey City Museum, NJ
Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL
Kunstabibliothek, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Germany
The Lannan Foundation, Los Angeles, CA
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA
Milwaukee Art Museum, WI
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami, FL
Museum of Contemporary Photography, Columbia College Chicago, IL
Museum of Modern Art/Franklin Furnace, Archive Collection, New York
Orange County Art Museum, Newport Beach, CA
Luigi Pecci Centre for Contemporary Art, Prato, Italy
Rhode Island School of Design Library, Artists' Books Collection, RI
Ruth and Marvin Sackner Archive of Concrete and Visual Poetry, Miami Beach, FL
Samek Art Gallery, Bucknell University
Tate Library, Tate Britain, London, England
Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN
Washington University in St. Louis, Special Collections, Olin Library, MO
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
Yale University Library, New Haven, CT
Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum, Rutgers University

###

For further information and visuals, please contact the gallery or visit our website at brunodavidgallery.com.

ABOUT THE BRUNO DAVID GALLERY

Specializing in contemporary art, Bruno David Gallery has been a leading art gallery since its establishment in 2005. Bruno David represents some of the best artists that St. Louis offers, along with artists of international reputation. Located in a renovated industrial building in Midtown St. Louis, Grand Center arts district, the Gallery is directly opposite the Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts and the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM), and is in close proximity to the Museum of Contemporary Religious Art (MOCRA), Saint Louis University Museum of Art (SLUMA), Sheldon Art Galleries, The Fox Theatre, and Powell Symphony Hall. Bruno David Gallery's art program introduces new contemporary art to gallery visitors, and is discussed in publications including, *Art in America*, *Art Papers*, *ArtNet Magazine*, and *The Wall Street Journal*.

3721 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD SAINT LOUIS MO 63108 314.531.3030
INFO@BRUNODAVIDGALLERY.COM WWW.BRUNODAVIDGALLERY.COM