

## **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 and galleries 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, *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. Among his previous publications are *Between the Sheets*, a limited edition book of images and text published in 2004 by The Ink Shop Printmaking Center in Ithaca, NY, *Details: closed to open*, an artists' book of photographic details from images in the Swarthmore College Peace Collection, (List Art Gallery, Swarthmore College, 2001) and *Beautiful Scenes: selections from the Cranbrook Archives* (Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI, 1998).

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 *The Book Maker's Desire*, critical essays on topics in contemporary art and artists' books (Umbrella Editions, 1995), and numerous exhibition catalogue essays, including *Conrad Bakker: untitled mail order catalogue* (Creative Capital, Inc., 2002) and *Dieter Roth* (University of Iowa Museum of Art, 1999).

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.

**SELECTED ONE PERSON EXHIBITIONS**

2010

"Shelf Life: selected work by Buzz Spector," 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

Marsha Mateyka Gallery, Washington, DC

1995

Angles Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

1994

"Unpacking my Library," inSITE'94, San Diego State University Art Gallery, CA (traveling exhibit)

"Unpacking my Library," inSITE'94, Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art, Cleveland, OH  
(traveling exhibit)

1992

fiction/nonfiction, New York

Laurence Miller Gallery, New York

"Bibliography," Fisher Gallery, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA (installation)

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**

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

2001

"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

1994

"Art in Chicago: 1945-1995," Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL (catalogue)

1990

"Knowledge: Aspects of Conceptual Art," University Art Museum, University of California-Santa Barbara, CA (traveling exhibit with catalogue)

1988

"Transgressions: Donald Lipski and Buzz Spector," Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC (catalogue)

### **Selected Publications by the artist**

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**

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

"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**

Artist's Fellowship, New York Foundation for the Arts. 2005  
Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Fellowship Award. 1991  
Fellowship Award, National Endowment for the Arts. 1991  
Fellowship Award, National Endowment for the Arts. 1985  
Fellowship Award, National Endowment for the Arts. 1982

## **Education**

1978  
University of Chicago, M.F.A., Committee on Art and Design

1972  
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, B.A., Art

For further information and visuals, please contact the gallery or visit our website at [brunodavidgallery.com](http://brunodavidgallery.com).

## **ABOUT THE BRUNO DAVID GALLERY**

Bruno David Gallery, St. Louis' leading art gallery specializing in contemporary art and one of the most important places to see art in Saint Louis. The Gallery represents some of the best artists that Saint Louis has to offer, along with artists of national and international reputation. Located in a stunningly renovated industrial building in the Grand Center arts district, directly opposite the Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts and the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis. Bruno David Gallery's art program has introduced new contemporary art to local gallery goers, and has been discussed in important art publications including, Art in America, Art Papers, ArtNet Magazine.

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