

## TM GRATKOWSKI

### EXHIBITIONS:

- 2011 G.L. Gallery Whittier College- January 2- February 10, 2012.  
Solo Show: "Accumulations"  
Gallery 825 – Los Angeles, CA. October 15 -November 11, 2011  
Solo Show: "Palimpsest"  
Blythe Projects – Los Angeles, CA. September 10- October 22, 2011  
Solo Show: "WHITE OUT"  
Torrance Art Museum- "SBF", Torrance, CA. Oct 18, '10- Jan 9, 2011  
Curated by Tressa Williams (Director George Billis Gallery).  
LA Municipal Art Gallery- "Deconstructed Applications" Collage Show, Los Angeles, CA. Oct 28, 2010-Jan 9, '2011  
Curated by Scott Canty and Mary Oliver (Curator LAMAG)
- 2010 Tar Fest 2010 – KCCLA Los Angeles, CA. September 24- October 8, 2010  
Curated By Edward Robinson (Associate Curator at LACMA)  
LA Municipal Art Gallery – "Open Show 2010", Los Angeles, CA. August 12- October 3, 2010  
Curated by Franklin Sirmans-LACMA's Chief Curator & Ali Subotnick-Curator UCLA Hammer Museum  
Armory Center for the Arts- Pasadena, CA June 27- August 22, 2010  
"International Mail Art Exhibition" Curated by Jay Belloli  
Gallery 825 – Los Angeles, CA. March 20 – April 16, 2010  
"Wrathful Battle Aspect" Curated by Michelle Pobar- Director for Honor Fraser Gallery.
- 2009 Gallery 825 – Los Angeles, CA. December 12 2009 – January 8, 2010  
"Open Show 2009". Curated by Apsara DiQuinzo- Assistant Curator of SFMOMA  
Tar Fest 2009 – KCCLA Los Angeles, CA. September 25- October 9, 2009  
Curated By Rita Gonzales (curator of American Art at LACMA)  
"Beyond Eden Contemporary Art Fair", Los Angeles, CA. October, 2009  
Featured Artist of LA Municipal Art Gallery – Curated by Mark Greenfield  
LA Municipal Art Gallery – "Open Show 2009", Los Angeles, CA. August 13- September 27, 2009  
Curated by Mark Greenfield (director of LAMG)  
LouWe Gallery – Pasadena, CA July 25 – September 6, 2009  
"Artist Invitational"  
Korean Cultural Museum – Los Angeles, CA. April 10-30 2009  
"17 Annual Contemporary Art Exhibition" Juried by: Alma Ruiz (Curator Contemporary Art MOCA) and Marc Pally (Artistic Director Santa Monica)  
Gallery 825 – Los Angeles, CA. January – January 31-Feb 27, 2009  
Solo Show: "Paradigm Shift"  
Lark Gallery- Long Beach, CA. August 15 – September 19, 2009  
"Hidden Treasures"- Juror: Peter Frank. Winner- Jurors prize/ Honorable Mention.
- 2008 Gallery 825 – Los Angeles, CA. December 13 – January 16 2008-9  
"Open Show 2008-California Artists".  
Curated By David Pagel- Art Critic/ Los Angeles Times  
Tar Fest 2008 – KCCLA Los Angeles, CA. September 20- October 11, 2008  
Curated By Howard Fox –LACMA Curator of Contemporary Art and Senior Curatorial Fellow  
LouWe Gallery – Pasadena, CA June 28 - August 10, 2008  
Artists invitational- group show.
- 2007 Barnsdall Art Gallery – Los Angeles, CA. January 2007  
Open Call- group show  
Gallery 825 – Los Angeles, CA December 2006  
Group Show: "Small Works"  
Gallery 825 – Los Angeles, CA. December 8 – January 11 2007-8  
"Novella" Group Show. Curated By Meg Lipton at Otis' Ben Maltz Gallery  
Solo Show: "Scraps"  
Gallery 825 – Los Angeles, CA. December 8 – January 11 2007-8

- “Open Show 2007- Southern California Artists” .  
 Curated By Howard Fox- Curator of Modern Art at LACMA  
 Metro Gallery – Los Angeles, CA. July 14 – August 18 2007  
 Solo Show: “Pattern Language and Paper Cuts”  
 Gallery 825- Los Angeles CA, May 12- June 8 2007  
 Group Show: “Crackerjack” Juried by Jay Belloli Director of Exhibitions of the Pasadena Armory  
 Korean Cultural Museum – Los Angeles, CA. April 6-May 2007  
 “15 Annual Contemporary Art Exhibition” Juried by: Sara Cochran (Curator Modern &  
 Contemporary Art LACMA) and Ann Klonarides (UCLA and Cal Arts Prof., Getty)  
 Michael Napoliello Gallery – Hermosa Beach, CA. Feb 8th- April 14 2007  
 “Winter Biannual” Juried by: Susan Cross of MASS MoCA  
 Barnsdall Art Gallery – Los Angeles, CA. January 2007
- 2006  
 Gallery 825 – Los Angeles, CA December 2006  
 Group Show: “Small Works”  
 The Hive Gallery - Los Angeles, CA. Dec 2 – Jan 7, 2006  
 Group Show: “Dolls, Dolls, Dolls”  
 Gallery 825- Los Angeles CA, December 1 2006  
 Group Show: “Petit Works”  
 TAG Gallery – Santa Monica, CA. August 19- September 15 2006  
 Group Show: “California Open Exhibit”  
 Gallery 8 – Phoenix AZ. August 4th – September 8 2006  
 Metro Gallery – Los Angeles, CA. March – April 2006  
 Group Show (4 person): “Out of Context”
- 2005  
 Harnett Hall Gallery, North Dakota, Jan. 12 - Feb. 22 2005.  
 “Americas 2000 Paper Works Competition” Juror: Kim W. Fink  
 The Hive Gallery - Group Show, Los Angeles, CA. May 7 – June 15, 2005  
 Gallery Yoramgil, “Art Seen”: New Emerging Artist in Los Angeles. March 2005  
 Judges: Catherine Opie (Artist), James Elaine (UCLA Hammer Museum Director), Howard Fox (LACMA Curator), Andrea Feldman (Curator Ovitiz Family Collection), Deborah McLeod (Christies Vice President)  
 M.J. Higgins Gallery, Los Angeles, CA. Feb 5 – March 7 2005  
 Group Show (4 person): LA Gallery Artists  
 Gallery Tempest, San Francisco, CA Feb 12 – March 30 2005.  
 Invitational Juried Show by Diane Tempest  
 Studio A3 @ the Brewery – Los Angeles, CA. Aug 5- Sept 5 2005  
 Group Show (4 person): “Lost and Found” Collage and Assemblage  
 Backstreet Gallery, Santa Monica, CA. June 2005  
 Group Show - “Honorary Best in Show Award”,  
 Pharmaka Gallery – Los Angeles, CA. December 2005  
 Juried Group Show: “Small Wonders”  
 Tar Fest 2005 – Los Angeles, CA. September 2005  
 Closing Exhibition, curated by James Panozzo of Lawrence Ascher Gallery
- 2004  
 California Emerging Artists Show: January 2004  
 “New Visions: Introductions ‘04” Juried Show: by Rene DiRosa and Jack Rasmussen  
 Barton Gallery, Sacramento, CA. January 15- February 15 2004  
 Group Show: “Architects Art” curated by: Carol Davydova.  
 UC Berkeley, Berkeley CA. February 15 - April 30, 2004  
 Group show: “Vagina Monologues” curated by Lara Rinzler.  
 Pro Arts Gallery, Oakland CA, April 15 – June 15  
 Group Show “EBOS”.  
 Lankershim Art Gallery, North Hollywood, CA. Nov.-Dec. 2004.  
 Juried show: “Cerebral Candy”.  
 Alameda Art Center, Alameda CA Sept. 3-23, 2004.  
 Juried show: “Sacred Images” by – Paula Bailey, Director, Artworks Downtown.

- 2003 Lit'l Lizzards, San Francisco, CA October 2003.  
 Group Show: "Infantile Art Show" curated by Andrea Frost.  
 PRO Arts Gallery, Oakland, CA. October 15 – November 25, 2003.  
 Group Show: "Missing Persons".  
 Cell Space, San Francisco, CA. October 20 – November 15, 2003.  
 Group Show: "Constructed Reconstructivism" curated by Kim Carlson.
- 2001 Echo Park Arts Show, Los Angeles, CA. 2001.  
 Invitational- curated by Paige Payne
- 2000 Miller/Durazo, Los Angeles CA. April 2000.  
 Juried Show: "Wall Space".  
 SFA Gallery, Nacoqoches TX. April 2000  
 Juried Show: "Texas National", the Art Guys: Michael Galbreth and Jack Massing.
- 1999 Cruz LA Gallery, Los Angeles CA. October 1999.  
 Juried Show: "100 Back and White International".  
 Kennilworth Gallery, Brooklyn N.Y. October 1999  
 Juried Show: "Kennilworth Showcase".
- 1996 Aedes Gallery, Berlin Germany. July 1996  
 Invitational Show: "Innovation".
- 1993 Anthenium, Chicago, IL. May 1993.  
 Juried Show: 3rd place. "en Charette"  
 LRC Gallery, Madison WI. June 1993.  
 Juried Show: "Arts Council National"  
 Uihlein Peters Gallery, Milwaukee WI. September 1993  
 Juried Show: "True Blue"- Traveling Exhibition.  
 Spisske' Museum, Levoca Slovakia. October 1993  
 Invitational: "Vystava '93"
- 1992 Union Gallery, Milwaukee WI. April 1992  
 Invitational: "Culmination" Outstanding Jurors Award.  
 Union Gallery, Milwaukee WI. October 1992  
 Invitational Group Show (5 person): "Party of Five".
- 1991 Fine Arts Gallery, Milwaukee WI. (Annual)1989-91.  
 Annual "Best of Show".

#### PUBLICATIONS:

- Artweek.LA, "Tm Gratkowski at Blythe Projects" by Tracey Harnish, September 17, 2011.  
 LA Art Diary, "Artist Interview with Tm Gratkowski" by Tracey Harnish, September 9, 2011.  
 Decorati , "Finding Common Threads In San Francisco Art Fairs, by Patter Hellstrom May 31, 2011.  
 Easy Reader News, "Flag Stop Pulls Into Torrance" by Bondo Wyszpolski August 31, 2001.  
 LA Weekly, "Flag Stop Art Fair: Dealership Becomes an Art Gallery" by Shana Nys Dumbrot, September 12, 2011.  
 LA Times, "Art- Happening Today" pD23 Friday October 9, 2009.  
 New Angeles Magazine, "Cutting the Crap" p 16, No. 3 Aug 2007.  
 SPACE Magazine, "The Infinite Paper Palette", August 2007.  
 Angeleno, "Pattern Language and Paper Cuts" p 22, July 2007.  
 Art Ltd. "Pulse" p 87, July 2007.  
 Carnegie Hall Playbill (Cover) 2007.  
 Fringe Magazine, September 2006 Issue.  
 Best of California Artists, Hardcover Book by Kennedy Publishing, p 26. Vol1, 2007.  
 Be Which Magazine, Spring/Summer Issue 2006.  
 Moby video "Spiders"- mixed media collages and artwork featured in video, 2005.  
 Trampoline House Art Magazine, Issue 0605 – "The White Issue", 2005.  
 Snips Art Magazine; Issue no.1 Spring 2005.  
 Art Hell Interview: www.arthell.com – October 2005.  
 Dogwood Journal – a literary arts journal. March 25 issue, 2005.

Vivid Hues Magazine, Spring/Summer Issue 2004 – p.45.  
Trampoline House Art Magazine, Issue 0103 – “The Game Issue”, 2003.  
Texas National 2000- Exhibition Catalogue; “Unseen Light”, p.16.  
GA Houses, Projects 59, vol. 2, 1999. “Casa Dent” p. 50-51.  
Sometimes I Sing To Her - “Selected Work”, 1998.  
Into the Oven/ Off-Ramp Publication, 1996. “C.M.U.E.”, p. 59-60.  
Artistic Freedom Under Attack, Vol. 2,1994. “Untitled Removal” p. 224.  
Shephard Express, week of 8-14, Nov 1991. “Architectural Debate” p.12-14.  
Architectural Record, Feb 1992. “Architecture Gagged” p.26.  
Archimage, 1992, Monsanto”, p 27.  
Archimage –suppliment, November 21, 1990.

#### Honors/ AWARDS:

CCI Artist Grant, 2001  
Jurors prize/ Honorable Mention- “Hidden Treasures”- Juror: Peter Frank. 2009  
Juror’s Prize- Southern California Art Open- Gallery 825, 2007.  
Honorary Best in Show- Backstreet Gallery, Santa Monica, CA. June 2005  
SCI-Arc Design Scholarship, 1995-96.  
3rd place- Juried Show: “en Charette”, Anthenium, Chicago, IL. May 1993  
Chicago AIA Award Competition- Nomination, 1991(2),1992 (1).  
Chicago AIA Award Competition- 3rd Place (Pavilion Expo '92), 1992.  
SARUP Award- Honorable Mention (Monsanto Competition),1992.  
SARUP Award- Honorable Mention (Riverfront Project),1992.  
Outstanding Jurors Award - Invitational: “Culmination”, Union Gallery, Milwaukee WI. April 1992  
Best of Show- Fine Arts Gallery, Milwaukee WI. “Annual Show” 1989-91.  
SARUP Award-Honorable Mention (Artist in Residence Center), 1991.  
SARUP Design Award- First Place (Pavilion Expo '92), 1991.  
SARUP Design Award- First Place (Library), 1991.  
SARUP Design Award- First Place (Ballet School), 1991.  
Deans Honor List, U.W., 1989-1991.  
Frederic R. Layton Scholarship, 1989-1991.

#### EDUCATION:

SCI-Arc MA 1996.  
Hoschule fur Agawandte Kunst, Vienna, Austria, 1994.  
University of Wisconsin, BS 1992.  
University of Wisconsin, BA 1991.  
The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, 1985-6.

## ARTIST STATEMENT:

Tm Gratkowski's art is both concept-driven and process-driven.

Beneath a tangle of fragmented vignettes, patterns, colors and textures, one encounters thought-provoking words, images and stories – the experience is visceral as well as intellectual. Tm uses mass-media as a lexicon of information to contextualize popular media as a social criticism about the very things that we are surrounded by but pay little attention to.

Using paper as his only material, Tm layers hundreds of pieces of paper to construct a surface rich in patterns, images, and text, all with subtle shifts in color. At a distance his works appear as formal abstractions, as if painted, but upon closer examination the layers are made up of a dense juxtaposition of selected images and texts.

The majority of Tm's work explores issues of social polarities and social conditions left unresolved in our social history. Tm juxtaposes political, social, and art images to tell a story rich in historical references and combines contemporaneous popular media to make these subjects relevant today.

What, at first, may appear as formal aesthetics will, upon closer examination, reveal a subject matter that is often complex, challenging, and difficult to take issue with. The process becomes evident as the viewer becomes engaged in a visual dialogue with the works hidden imagery and words. Tm hopes to engage the viewer and the art in a way in which they are at liberty to see, discuss, and challenge that which has been (re)discovered.

## BIO:

After attending the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and the Hochschule für Angewandte Kunst in Vienna Tm Gratkowski went on to receive a BS and a BFA from UW and a MA from SCI-Arc in Los Angeles. Although his education and early works are rooted in painting and drawing Tm has spent most of his professional career as an artist creating collages made of thousands of pieces of paper layered to construct a surface rich in patterns, images, text. He uses this lexicon of information to reexamine popular media as a vehicle for social criticism.

As a visual artist Tm always searches to reexamine and question systems and meanings that usually go unnoticed and are taken for granted within popular culture. Using source material primarily from the media to engage the viewer and the art in a way they are at liberty to see, discuss, and challenge.

## RECENT ACTIVITY:

In the Fall of 2011 Tm will be in 3 solo shows at Blythe Projects in Culver City (September 2011), Gallery 825 in Los Angeles (October 2011), and at Whittier College Art Gallery in Whittier CA (January 2012). Most recently Tm spearheaded the creation and vision behind FLAG STOP – “an alternative contemporary art event” in LA as its Director. For this first time event Tm selected some of the top curators and artists to curate their own unique shows in over 22,000 sq.ft. of temporary exhibition space, utilizing unused industrial spaces, showrooms, and containers.

Tm's art has been included in numerous shows curated by some of Los Angeles top museum curators: Franklin Sirmans (LACMA Chief Curator), Howard Fox (LACMA senior curator of Contemporary Art), Alma Ruiz (MOCA Contemporary Art Curator), Rita Gonzales (LACMA Curator), James Elane (UCLA Hammer Museum Curator), Mark Greenfield (LAMAG Director), Ali Subtonic (UCLA Hammer Museum Curator), Meg Lipton (Otis' Ben Maltz Gallery), Edward Robinson (LACMA Associate Curator), Sara Cochran (LACMA), Ann Klonarides (Getty Curator), David Pagel (LA Times Sr. Art Critic), Peter Frank, & Marc Pally.

Tm's art was featured in Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery's collage show: “Deconstructed Applications” (Oct 28- 2010- January 9, 2011)- where 3 of his large format collages were exhibited. Also at LAMAG “2010 Open Show” (August 12- October 3, 2010) Tm has a 14'x 7' (two-sided) collage curated by Franklin Sirmans- LACMA's Chief Curator. Tm exhibited at “Beyond Eden Contemporary Art Fair” as the featured artist for the Los Angeles Municipal Gallery in October 2009 and was the featured artist at Gallery 825 in Los Angeles for the National Aids Awareness Day in December 2009 for a solo presentation of new works.. His work has been featured in SPACE magazine “The Infinite Paper Palette”(Aug 2007), New Angeles “Cutting The Crap” (August 2007), Art Ltd “Pulse” (July 2007), Carnegie Hall's Playbill (Feb 2007 cover), and Angeleno Magazine's “Top 10 Shows To See” (July 2007).

In 2007 his piece “Santa Ana Winds” was published in the book “Best of California Art” 2007 where it received the second place award for “most original new work”. This was followed by an interview featured in the Spring/Summer issue of Be Which Magazine (2007). He was also among the final five artists to be considered for the LACMA 2006 Search Group Purchase Award. In 2005 he sold a collage entitled “Chiasma”, through Christies- Los Angeles. In April of 2005, He was included in the “25 California Emerging Artist in Los Angeles” Show at Gallery Yormagil. Tm has also created a series of collages which were featured in Moby's “Spiders” video.

Tm currently lives and works in Los Angeles California and is represented by Blythe Projects on the West Coast and PATRAJDAS Contemporary on the East Coast.