

RYAN TRAVIS CHRISTIAN

b. 1983 Oakland, CA

Lives and works in Chicago, IL

EDUCATION

2007 BFA, Northern Illinois University

SOLO / TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 BIG BALDY ETC, Arsham Feig Gallery, New York, NY
- 2018 *I'm Picking Up Where the California Raisins Left Off*, Richard Geller Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
- 2017 *This Shit is for the Birdies*, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
Joakim Ojanen and Ryan Travis Christian, The Hole, New York, NY
- 2015 *Ryan Travis Christian & T.L. Solien*, Left Field, San Luis Obispo, CA
- 2014 *Check please!*, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
That Ain't Jazz, Greenpoint Terminal Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2013 *Well, Here We Aren't Again*, Contemporary Art Museum, Raleigh, NC
American Landscapes and Stuff, Trailer Park Projects, Puerto Rico
- 2012 *The Second Banana*, Guerrero Gallery, San Francisco CA
Something Something Black Something, Halsey McKay, East Hampton NY
John Riepenhoff Experience Presents - RTC Collaborates, Pepin Moore, Los Angeles CA
It Ain't Conceptual, CooperCole, Toronto ON
- 2011 *River Rats/RTC Collaborates*, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
Sad Sacks, Guerrero Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2010 *Well, Time Makes Fools of Us All*, Guerrero Gallery, San Francisco, CA
New Work, POVEvolving, Los Angeles, CA
Antexspagna, EBERSMOORE, Chicago, IL
WEED DEMON, Guerrero Gallery, San Francisco, CA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 *Digital Print Show*, Washington Art Association & Gallery, Washington Depot, CT
- 2018 *SWEET*, Golden and Delicious, NIU Art Museum, DeKalb, IL
ALIVE WITH PLEASURE!, Asya Geisberg Gallery, New York, NY
Art Fair, The Porch Gallery, Minneapolis, MN
Immersion, Richard Heller Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

WESTERN EXHIBITIONS

1709 W Chicago Ave., Chicago IL 60622 USA
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- 2017 *Hide And Go Chic*, Rover Gallery, Chicago, IL
Unapologetic Drawing, Ralph Arnold Gallery, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL
Heatwave, Granite City Art and Design District (G-CADD), Granite City, IL
Zing Zam Blunder, Harbinger Projects, Reykjavik, Iceland
Fake News, CES Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Underlying system is not known, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
The Nothing That Is: A Drawing Show in 5 Parts, curated by Matt Distel and Bill Thelen, The Carnegie, Covington, KY
Periscope, Able Baker Contemporary, Portland ME
Ocotillio, Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia PA
- 2016 *Em Kettner, Kyle Breitenbach, and Ryan Travis Christian*, Harpy Gallery, Rutherford NJ
Quiet Please, The Inn Gallery, Los Angeles CA
Velvet Ropes, GIFC Worldwide, New York NY
LTD Wear, LVL3, Chicago IL
Thick As Paper Thin, Brilliant Champions, Brooklyn NY
Geo Necro, Ada Gallery, Richmond VA
6/2016, Guerrero Gallery, San Francisco CA
- 2015 *Gatherings & Conversations*, Guerrero Gallery, San Francisco, CA
White House Black Market, Kimberly-Klark, Queens, NY
Mysterious Muck, Circuit 12 Contemporary, Dallas, TX
Fence, Threewalls, Chicago IL
Happily Until Their Deaths, Narwhal Contemporary, Toronto ON
Who Me?, curated by Daniel Albrigo, Atak Gallery, San Francisco, CA
IRVINGVARIETY, Guerrero Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Selfie, curated by HuskMitNavn, Gallery Steinsland Berliner (GSB), Stockholm, Sweden
The Nothing That Is – a drawing show in five parts, curated by Bill Thelen. CAM Raleigh, NC.
“That’s My Trip”, curated by Andrea Shoultz, Joshua Liner Gallery
Inaugural Group Show, Left Field, San Luis Obispo, CA
PRTY PPL, Curated by Josh Reames, Circuit 12 Contemporary, Dallas, TX
Group Show, ChinaTown Project, San Francisco CA
Interface, Water Street Studios, Aurora IL
Potshop, Tusk, Chicago IL
Jug Life, Park Life, San Francisco CA
- 2014 *Deluxe Projects LA/CHI presents: Pareidolia*, Red Pipe Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Rocket Run: Abstraction from Chicago, Elder Gallery, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, NE
I’m Jealous Of Your Failure, University Galleries, Illinois State University, Normal IL
We do what we like and we like what we do, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
HEAD, Western Exhibitions, Chicago IL
Buying Friends, UICA, Grand Rapids MI
Ghooost Show IV, Imagination Giants, Milwaukee WI
If They Mated, The Honey Hole, Chicago IL
Home At Last, Andres Guerrero Project, San Francisco CA
We Do What We Like and We Like What We Do, Western Exhibitions, Chicago IL
Juxtapoz Psychedelic Release Party, The Well, Los Angeles CA
Welp, Bowbarr, Carrboro NC
- 2013 *TELL THEM I HATE THEM*, Greenpoint Terminal Gallery, Brooklyn, NY.

- Group Show*, Guerrero Gallery, San Francisco CA
These Friends, Finale, THIS Gallery, Los Angeles CA
Milestone #1, Circuit 12 Contemporary, Dallas TX
- 2012 *Pig Party 8.3*, curated by Gina Beavers, Bowery, New York NY
Black Foliage 2.0, Nudashank, Baltimore MD
Black Foliage, Chinatown Arcade, NYC NY
Gin & Juice, Ivory & Black, London UK
Still Here Now, Mohs Exhibit, Copenhagen DN
Cigarettes, Phone Cards, & Hip Hop Clothing, FFDG, San Francisco CA
Living By Example, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago IL
- 2011 *Group Show*, Guerrero Gallery, San Francisco CA
Double Breaks, Double Break, San Diego CA
Art We Like, Deer Run, Cambria CA
This Place In Time, Show and Tell Gallery, Toronto ON
Club Nutz @ Art Since the Summer of 69, New York NY
Domestic Goods, Eric Firestone Gallery, East Hampton NY- curated by Ryan Wallace
New Chicagoans, Co-Prosperity Sphere Chicago IL
Chain Letter, Samson Projects, Boston MA
Territories, Marwen, Chicago IL
SweatBoxing, MAMA Rotterdam, NE
Objectivity, Cornish College for the Arts, Seattle WA
Heads on Poles, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
- 2010 *AH! Wilderness*, EbersMoore, Chicago, IL
Wreck The Walls, Subliminal Projects, Los Angeles, CA
A Guide to Salvation, Space 1026, Philadelphia PA curated by Hilary Pecis
Weed Demon, Guerrero Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Paper! Awesome!, Baer Ridgway Projects, San Francisco, CA
Inaugural Exhibition, Guerrero Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Diverse Chorus, SCOOP, Charleston SC
- 2009 *Infinity*, Scion Installation, Los Angeles, CA
East of Eden, Synchronicity, Los Angeles, CA
Enigmatic Shadow, Synchronicity, Los Angeles, CA
CaBoom, Synchronicity, Los Angeles, CA
- 2008 *Titanium Expose*, FFDG, San Francisco, CA
Chimera Frontiera, Junc Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
NFO XPO/Version Fest, Chicago
- 2007 *Mutation Nation*, D.I.Y. Gallery, Los Angeles CA
Brown River, Roots & Culture Contemporary Arts Center, Chicago, IL
KlusterCrusts, Butcher Shop/Dogmatic, Chicago, IL
- 2006 *Where All the D*cks Hang Out*, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
Rudolph Projects, Houston, TX

COLLECTIONS

Artist Book Collection, SFMOMA, San Francisco, CA
Artist Book Collection, Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, CA
Illinois State Museum, Springfield IL.
Jager Collection, Amsterdam
McHenry County College, Crystal Lake, IL
Soho House Chicago

PUBLIC WORKS

- 2013 *RTC & Friends*, public mural. contributions by Cody Hudson, Jose Lerma, Heidi Norton, Josh Reames, Kate Ruggeri, Adam Scott, Peter Skvara and Geoffrey Todd Smith. Rear exterior wall of the 845 W Washington Building, Chicago IL
Viber, mural for Lollapalooza Music Festival, Grant Park, Chicago IL

SPECIAL PROJECTS

- 2017 *Frogmen*, jigsaw puzzle with Morgan Blair. Puzzle Time.

CURATORIAL

- 2017 *Eyes, Lips, Nose, Etc. ...*, Left Field, San Luis Obispo, CA
- 2016 *How High?*, Left Field, San Luis Obispo, CA
- 2015 *Ryan Travis Christian Presents: 21st Century LOL'S*, Left Field, San Luis Obispo, CA
DucksLa, Minotaur Projects, Los Angeles, CA
- 2014 *Ducks*, Greenpoint Terminal Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Circuit12 Contemporary, Dallas, TX
- 2012 *Nemesis*, Green Gallery, Milwaukee WI - co curated w/ Ben Stone
Where My Cones At?, POVEvolving, Los Angeles CA.
Where My Cones At, Double Break, San Diego CA
- 2011 *West, Wester, Westest! Pt.2*, FFDG, San Francisco, CA
- 2010 *Lil' Whitney*, FFDG, San Francisco, CA
The Power of Selection, pt. 1,2 & 3, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
- 2009 *Control C, Control V*, EbersB9, Chicago, IL
Sports, Synchronicity, Los Angeles, CA
- 2008 *West, Wester, Westest*, FFDG, San Francisco, CA

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- 2017 Artspace. Abrams, Loney. "7 Favorites From Untitled, Miami Beach 2017." December 7, 2017
Artsy. "10 Emerging Artists to Discover at Untitled, Miami Beach". December 2017.
Ravelin Magazine. "Joakim Ojanen and Ryan Travis Christian at The Hole". June 2017.
Juxtapoz. "Ryan Travis Christian Throwing the Birds Some Shade". May 2017.
Puzzle Time. Interview with Ryan Travis Christian by Morgan Blair. April 2017.
Chicago Magazine. Fomberg, Jason. "Ryan Travis Christian Pays Homage to 1930s Satire", March 2017
- 2015 frieze. Luse, Mimi. "The Nothing That Is - A Drawing Show in Five Parts." Issue 175, November-December 2015
under the gum tree: July 2015. Visual Art by Ryan Travis Christian. Publisher: ThinkHouse Collective, Sacramento, California.
Inside/Within. "Ryan Travis Christian's Patterned Obscurity". February 2015
- 2014 ArtNews.com. Chiaverina, John. "Duck Yourself: On Ryan Travis Christian's Very Democratic Group Show About, Well, Ducks." November 4, 2014
Opening Ceremony. Salama, Cecilia. "What The Duck? A Greenpoint Art Show Gets Quacky." October 27
Strange Plants. Baritoux, Zio, editor. Zioxla, publisher.
The Hundreds. Zio. "Ryan Travis Christian :: Check Please!". May 15, 2014
DAZED. Gavin, Francesca. "Top ten artists working with monochrome." April 23, 2014
Land and Sea #20. Overview, February 2014
Juxtapoz Psychedelic. Stouffer, Hannah. hard cover. pgs. 170-180 February 2014
- 2013 New York Times: Travel. Dove, Travis. "Old Warehouses Go Beyond Storage in Raleigh, N.C." Apr 14
Art Papers. Lampe, Lilly. "Ryan Travis Christian". April 2013
Indy Week. Vitiello, Chris. "At CAM Raleigh, flattened raindrops and googly eyes." March 6, 2013
Associated Press. "Art, an Act of Creation, Can Involve Destruction." (video). February 22, 2013
Associated Press. Breed, Allen. "In Artist's Show, Creation Merges With Destruction." (Ryan Travis Christian). February 22, 2013
Lodown Magazine. Allister Lee. "Black Is Beautiful" Issue 84, pgs 164-165 December/January/February
- 2012 Ion Magazine, Khan, Alezea. "Ones To Watch | Ryan Travis Christian", December 28, 2012
Juxtapoz Issue 144, pgs. 64- 75. December 2012
NewCity Art, "Art 50: Chicago's Artists' Artists", September 19, 2012
New American Paintings, Midwest Issue #101, pgs. 164-167. August 2012
LVL3. Uribe, Vincent. "Artist of the Week: Ryan Travis Christian". May 7, 2012 (interview)
Frieze. "Ryan Travis Christian @ Western Exhibitions" Issue 145. March 2012
- 2011 New American Paintings Blog. Reames, Josh. "Ryan Travis Christian at Western Exhibitions", December 2, 2011.
art ltd. Picard, Caroline. "Ryan Travis Christian." November 2011
New City. Stabler, Bert. "Ryan Travis Christian" (review). October 25, 2011
Daily Serving, Curcio, Seth. "Sad Sacks: an Interview with Ryan Travis Christian", March 29, 2011
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- 2010 AFA. "Cosmic Puns II, Eric Yahnker and Ryan Travis Christian in Conversation" (interview)

- New City. Foumberg, Jason. " 2010 Breakout Artists: Chicago's Next Generation of Image Makers". April 29 2010.
Fecalface.com. (interview) online
New City. Hendrickson, Julia V., "Ryan Travis Christian" (review). February 22, 20106
- 2009 Beautiful Decay, Book 2 "What A Mess!" (profile)
 Infinity, Scion (exhibition catalogue) (profile)
- 2008 The Comics Journal. "Yeah, But is it Comics?" Issue #291, pg.145, 2008
- 2007 The Chicago Reader. "KlusterCRUSTS" Issue No. 119, pg, 75 KlusterKrusts (Exhibition Catalogue) June 2007.

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Chicago, Illinois



ANOTHER GOD DAMNED FULL MOON, 2017, Graphite on paper, 7h x 10w in

Ryan Travis Christian's surreal personal narratives are fueled by the absurdity of life in his small, suburban-Chicago hometown. The untidy lifestyles of contemporary humanity are all hanging out, including heavy petting, drugs and alcohol, beaten-up cars, fireworks and death. Inspired by vintage political cartoons and hand-drawn animation, Christian comes to terms with his sources' sordid past while embracing their richness and flavor. Christian's idiosyncratic vision, influenced by Ub Iwerks, George Condo, and the Hairy Who, has recently expanded to include commentary on current crises in the nation and world at large. Tackling hot political issues such as immigration, depression and the American dream, Christian's historical precedents become a mirror reflecting many common concerns of the present, warts and all. His small daily drawings touch upon a vast array of topics — the economy, violence, the environment, gender, class, hope, doubt, and the afterlife — as they muse on the technological and material obsolescence of his inspiration; Christian doubles down on the paradoxical relationship between childish cartoons and ominous messages.

Ryan Travis Christian's solo and two-person shows include the Contemporary Art Museum in Raleigh, NC; The Hole, New York City, Guerrero Gallery in San Francisco, Halsey McKay in East Hampton, NY and Cooper Cole in Toronto, and has been included in group shows in London, Rotterdam, San Francisco, Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Baltimore, Dallas and Los Angeles. His work has been written about in *frieze*, *art ltd*, *Art Papers*, *New American Paintings*, *Daily Serving*, *Indy Week* and the *Associated Press*. *New City* named Christian as one of Chicago's "Breakout Artists" for 2010 and named by the same publication as one of Chicago's "Top 50 Artists' Artists" in 2012. *DAZED* recently named Christian as one of the "top ten artists working with monochrome." He is represented by Western Exhibitions in Chicago and lives and works in the Chicagoland area.

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