

# 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  
*With a Capital P: Selections by Six Painters*, Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst, IL
- 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

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(312) 480-8390 | [westernexhibitions.com](http://westernexhibitions.com) | [scott@westernexhibitions.com](mailto:scott@westernexhibitions.com)

- 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  
*Ghoost 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: 21<sup>st</sup> 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

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

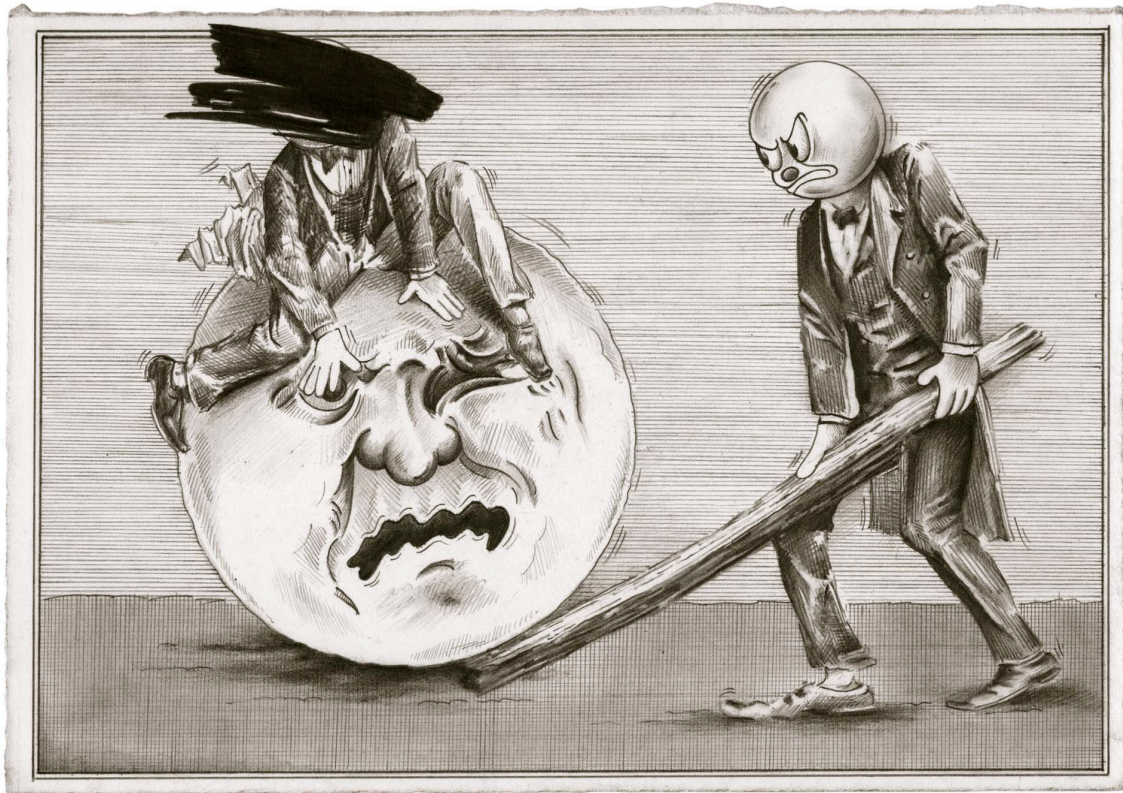
- 2019 [Hypebeast](#). "Ryan Travis Christian Unveils Latest Series of Artworks at Arsham/Fieg Gallery." Mar. 12, 2019.
- 2018 Deep Color, Joseph Hart, "Ryan Travis Christian- Episode 41", December 02, 2018
- 2017 [Artspace](#). Abrams, Loney. "7 Favorites From Untitled, Miami Beach 2017." December 7, 2017  
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[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  
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- 2014 [ArtNews.com](#). Chiaverina, John. "Duck Yourself: On Ryan Travis Christian's Very Democratic Group Show About, Well, Ducks." November 4, 2014  
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[Strange Plants](#). Baritoux, Zio , editor. Zioxla, publisher.  
[The Hundreds](#). Zio. "Ryan Travis Christian :: Check Please!". May 15, 2014  
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[Juxtapoz Psychedelic](#). Stouffer, Hannah. hard cover. pgs. 170-180 February 2014
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[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  
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[Juxtapoz](#) Issue 144, pgs. 64- 75. December 2012  
[NewCity Art](#), "Art 50: Chicago's Artists' Artists", September 19, 2012  
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- 2011 [New American Paintings Blog](#). Reames, Josh. "Ryan Travis Christian at Western Exhibitions", December 2, 2011.  
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- Lumpen Magazine, "Black + White", Volume 19, # 116, Issue #2, pg.30, March 2011
- 2010 AFA, "Cosmic Puns II, Eric Yahnker and Ryan Travis Christian in Conversation" (interview)  
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- 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.



# RYAN TRAVIS CHRISTIAN

b. 1983 Oakland, CA  
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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