

# THE BEST THING ABOUT ARTSCAPE



## **Dwayne Butcher on the Artist-Run Art Fair at Artscape 2015**

Organized by artist collective Open Space, the [Artist-Run Art Fair](#) is by far the best thing about Artscape. It was last year as well, when it was known then as the Alternative Art Fair.



# OPEN SPACE

THANKS  
FOR  
COMING  
TO THE  
ARTIST  
RUN ART  
FAIR!

There were a couple of okay things/artists/projects/crafts to look at with all the other vendors, art cars, and food trucks. The performances and installations that were a part of *Lazy River*, curated by Maggie Villegas and Melissa Webb, were quite interesting and engaging. Laure Drogol's seesaw installation on the Charles Street bridge was cool and the kiddos seemed to love it; it played well into the water theme for this year's Artscape. Chris Cumbie's *The Nightmare Before Christmas* rip-off's were fun and priced to sell. And, Leah Boelman's threaded quips on reclaimed wood were cute, but we have all seen these at Trov before this weekend. It was definitely the Artist-Run Art Fair that made me trek to Artscape twice this



weekend.

At first, the Artist-Run Art Fair seems out of place. As if, with this kind of experimental work and these artist run, non-profit/guerilla spaces, most of the patrons to Artscape would not know how to react to it. I would be curious to know how many of the 350,000 attendees seek out these art spaces after Artscape? Even if the number is zero, I think it is important for people to see this work, to know that it exists in their city, even if it is only for these three days.







The Monument Quilt





The Monument Quilt





Akimbo Performance Space





Akimbo





Akimbo





Akimbo

Seeing a performance by Akimbo in their make-shift performance space would have to be a highlight for just about anyone. I imagine the conversations that people have when coming across a cigarette lighter attached to the floor with silicone. I would love to know what goes through a viewers mind when they see how bb has installed their work. I think most people enjoyed participating in Stephen Crouch's selfie installation. The discourse that was generated by seeing the work of The Monument Quilt is just about



priceless and definitely needed.



bb





Stephen Crouch with Furthermore





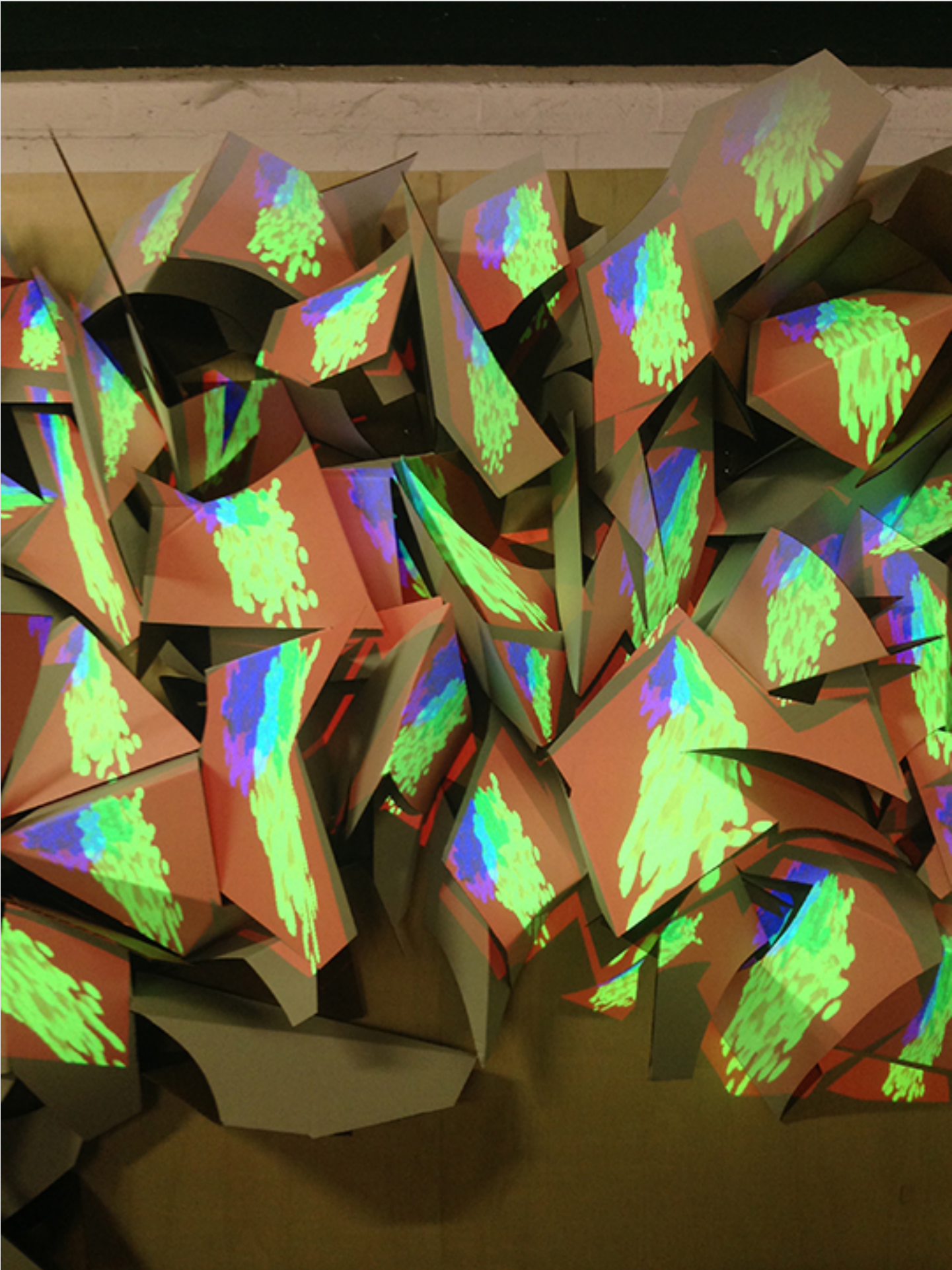
Stephen Crouch with Furthermore





Stephen Crouch with Furthermore





Stephen Crouch with Furthermore

There were several highlights within this highlight of Artscape. The previously mentioned lighter sculpture by Lucas Haroldsen, showing with Open Space. Also, Esther Ruiz showing at Platform. I am super excited about her upcoming August exhibition there.

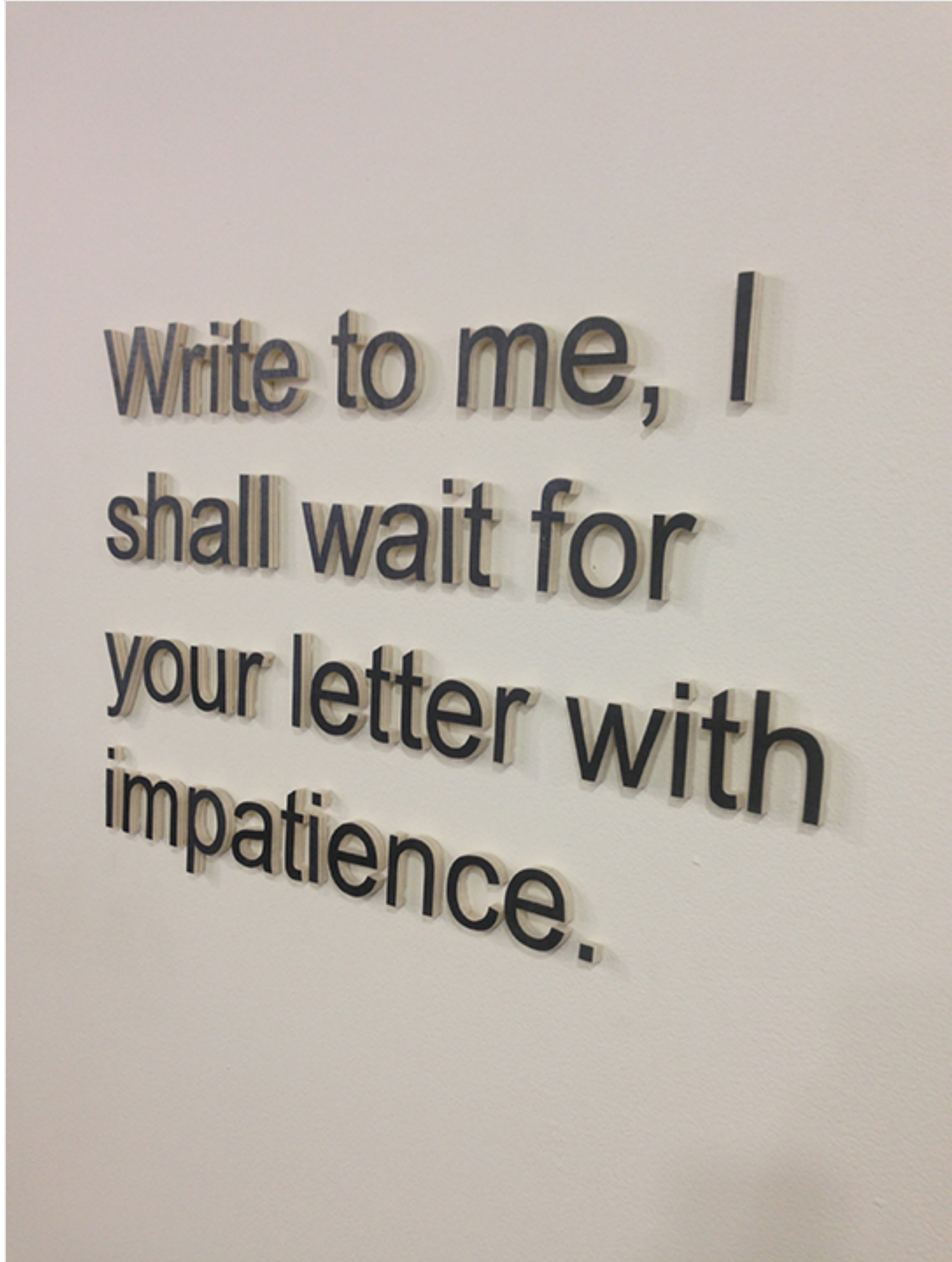


# PLATFORM



Esther Ruiz with Platform Gallery





Niels Post with Transmitter

I loved Niels Post's work with Transmitter and Guest Spot @ the Reinstitute, because I am obsessed with all text work nowadays. Also, Sophie Friedman-Papas with Lil' Gallery.





Sophie Friedman-Papas  
Untitled (Red Figure 10)  
\$100

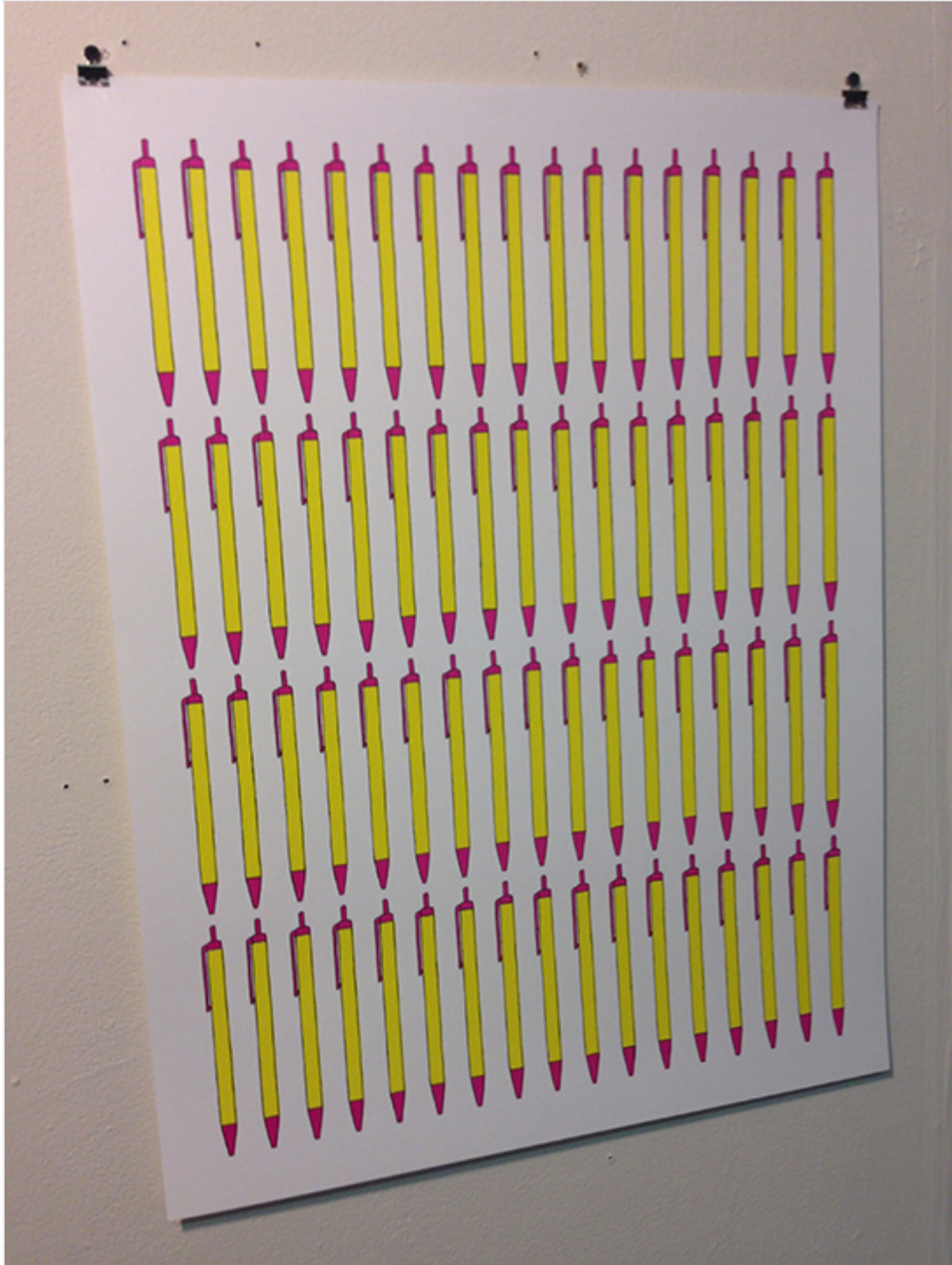


Sophie Friedman-Papas  
Untitled (Red Figure 10)  
\$100

Sophie Friedman-Papas with Lil' Gallery

On a side note, Lil' Gallery had their last opening this weekend and their booth was titled, *Everything Must Go*. If they really are indeed done, it's sad to see them go, but I am glad they got to put together so many great exhibitions.





Justin Lucas with Current

Current Space’s Justin Lucas’ Big Boyz Bail Bonds pens print was the most Baltimore thing ever. So good.

Other works that stood out at the 2015 Artist-Run Art Fair During Artscape are as follows.









Sarah Favreau with Terrault Contemporary





Michael Bussell with Lil' Gallery





Open Space Exhibit Booth





Lucas Haroldsen with Open Space





Lucas Haroldsen with Open Space





Lucas Haroldsen with Open Space





Lucas Haroldsen with Open Space





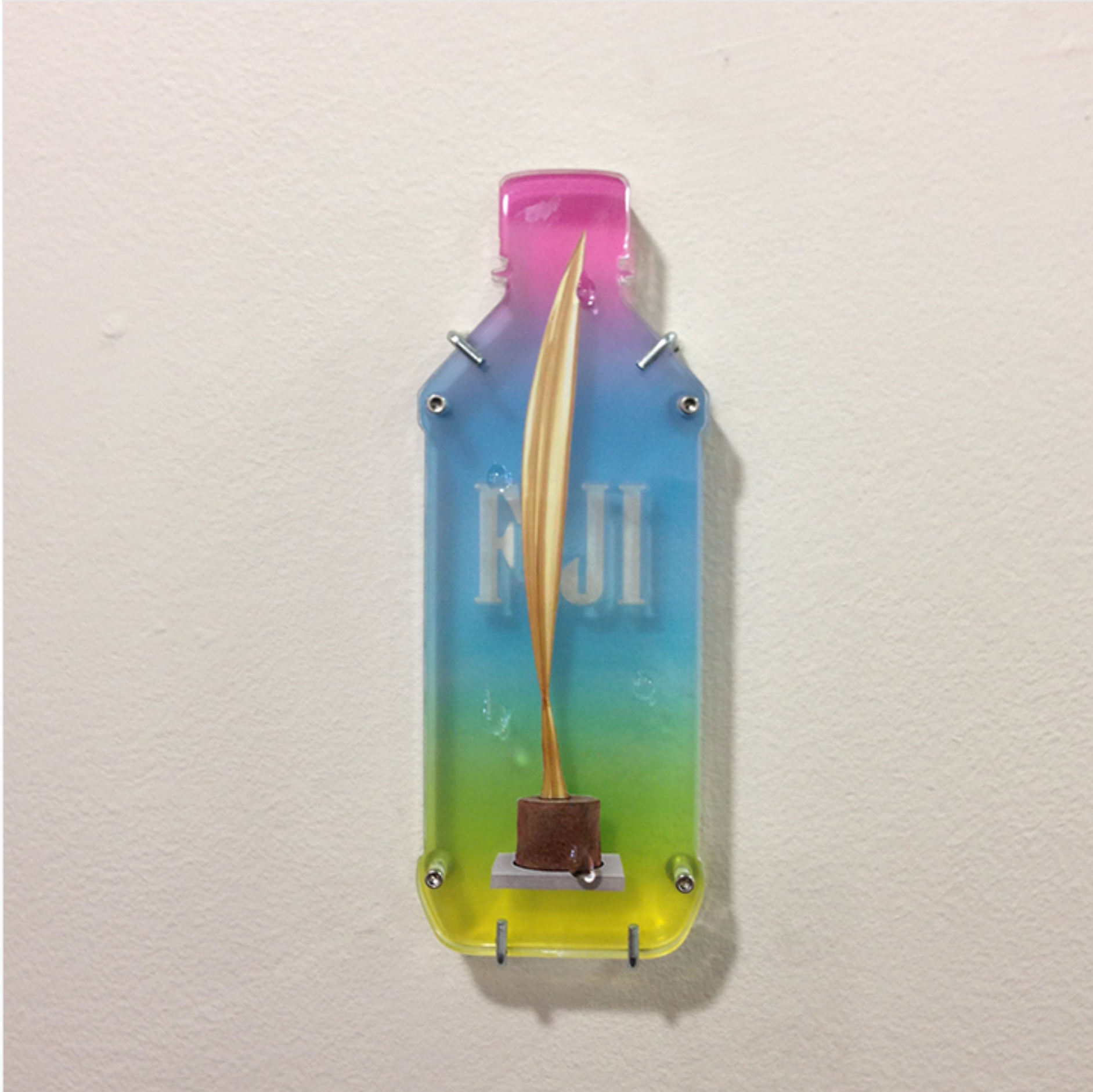
Lauren Portada with Transmitter





# Kelley McNutt with Open Space





Kaita Niwa with Platform Gallery





Kaita Niwa with Platform Gallery





Justin Lucas with Current





Justin Lucas with Current





Julia Scroggin with Lil' Gallery





Jerry Walters with Sediment





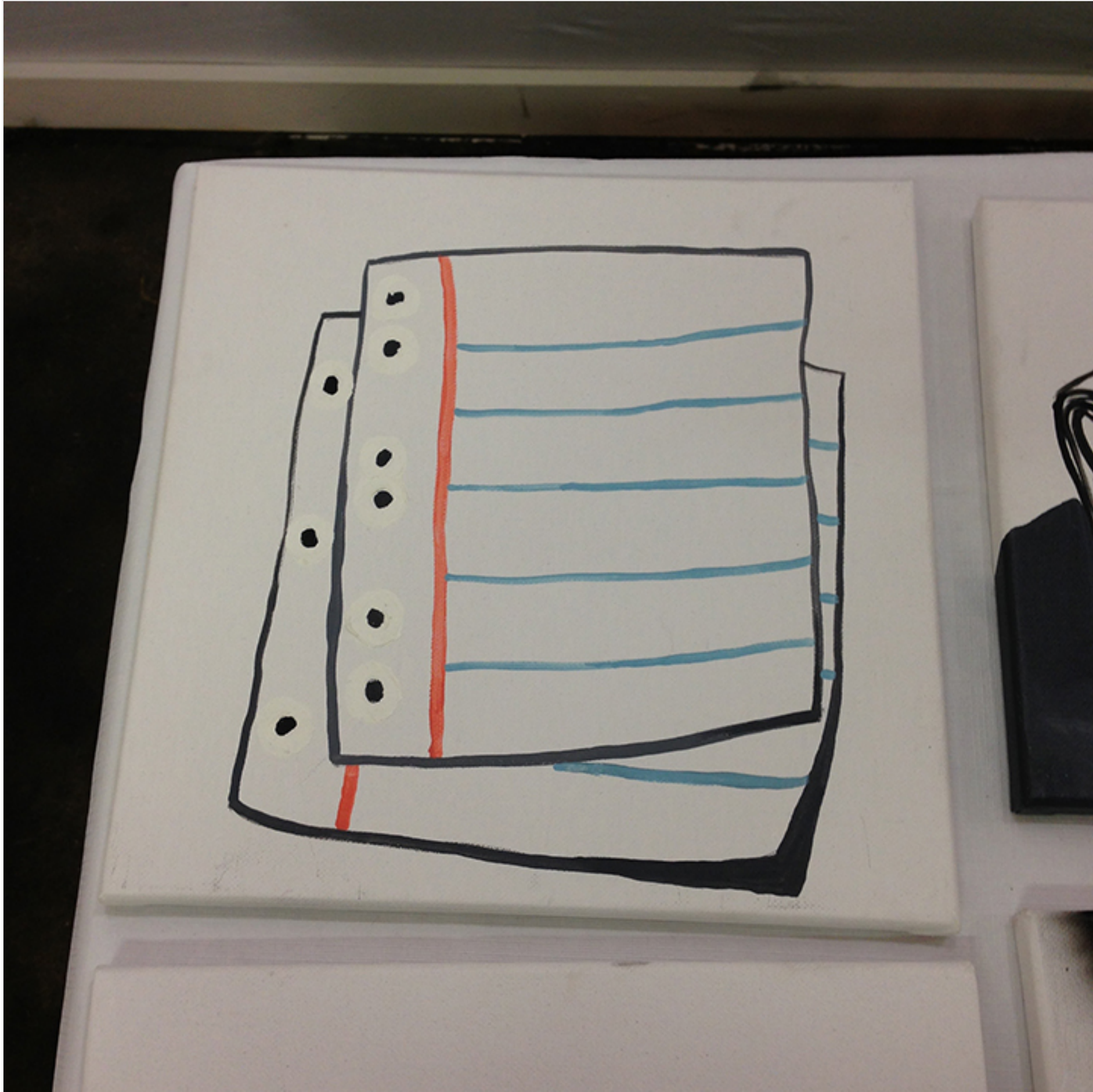
Jerry Walters with Sediment



## NIA's Manifesto 2015

- NO to Normality
- NO to racism
- NO to violence
- NO to Power rangers
- NO to Bullying
- NO to Black licorice
- NO to Homelessness
- NO to EVIL
- NO to Homogeneity
- NO to Ignorance
- NO to CURSING
- NO to Fear
- NO to tomatoes
- NO to ~~the patriarchy~~ Patriarchy





Angela Arrigo from Platform Gallery



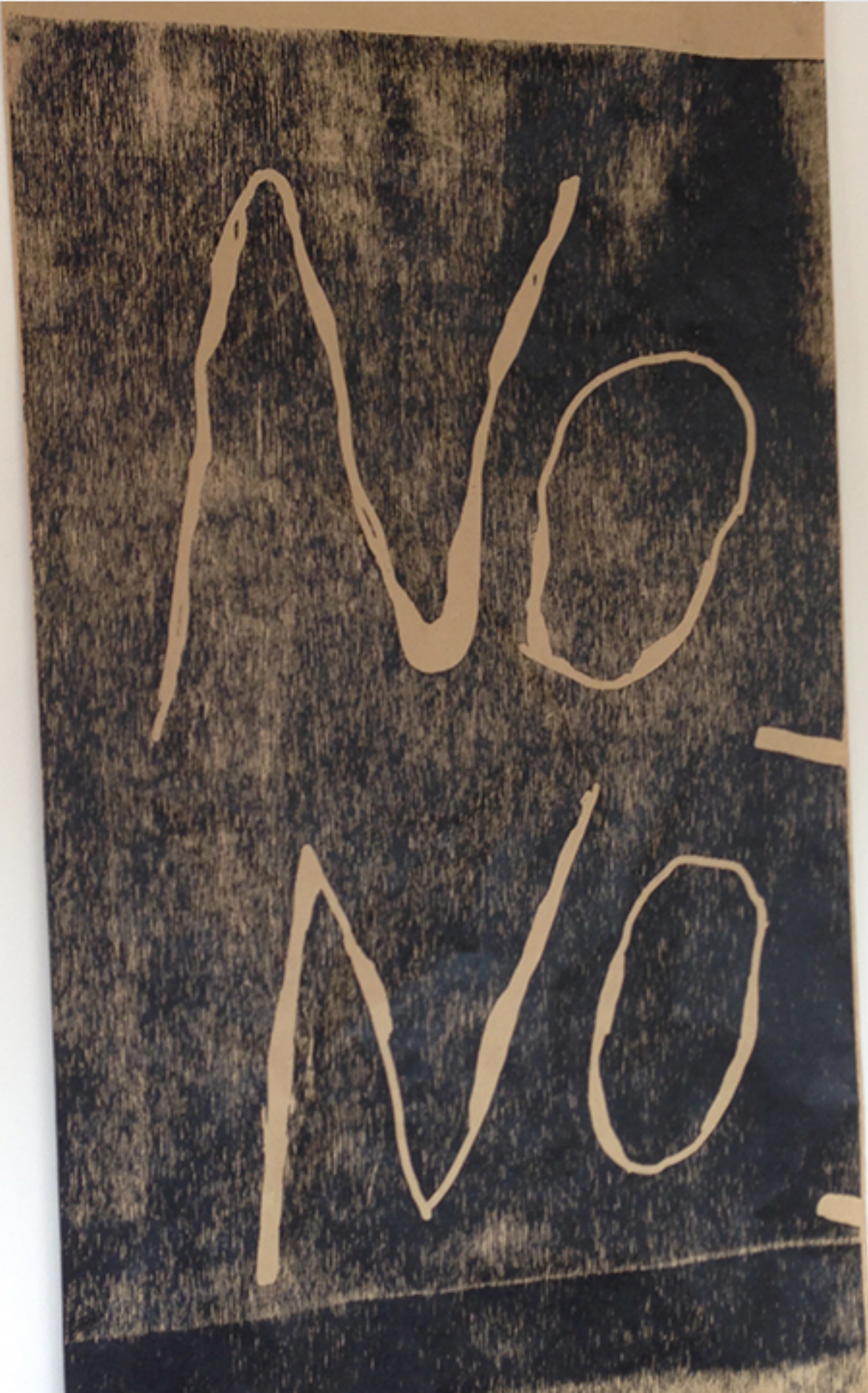
100% YES  
ANNOUNCING  
THE TRUTH

100%  
YES  
MANGO



Get Your Life Productions





Get Your Life Productions





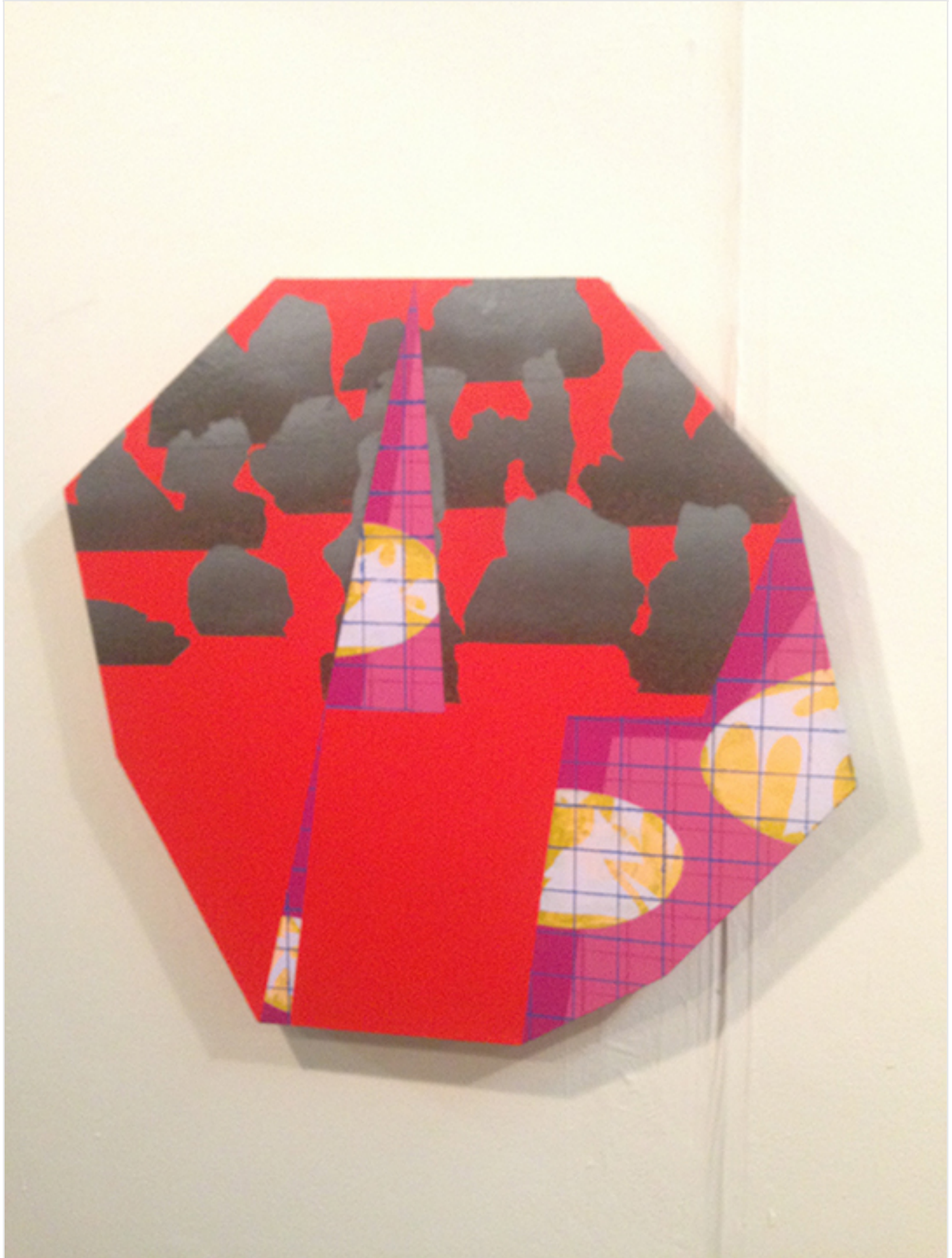
Always Already Here Vol 1 with Ortega y Gasset Projects





Christopher McCarthy with Terrault Contemporary





Christopher McCarthy with Terrault Contemporary





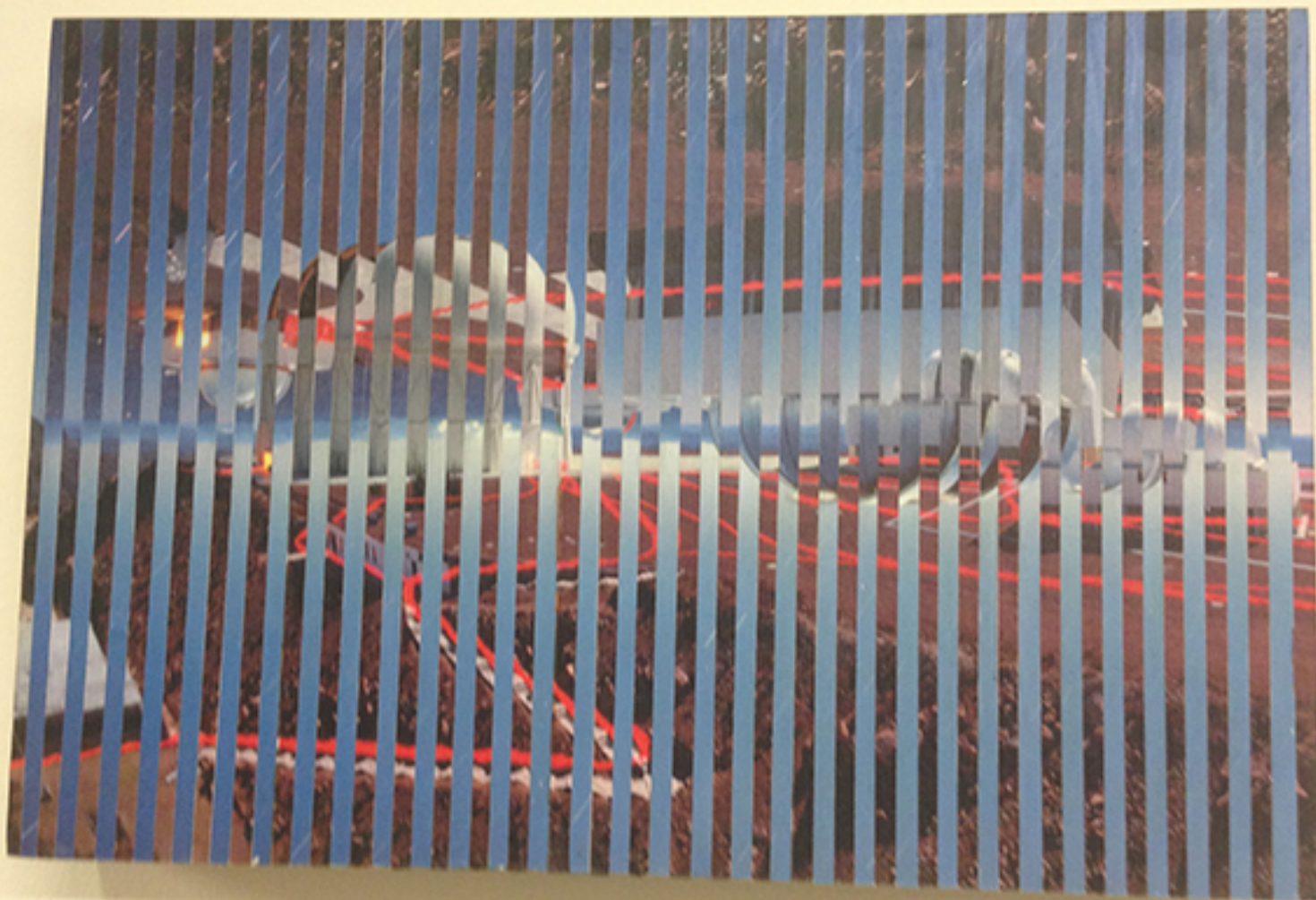
Christopher Kardambikis with Sediment





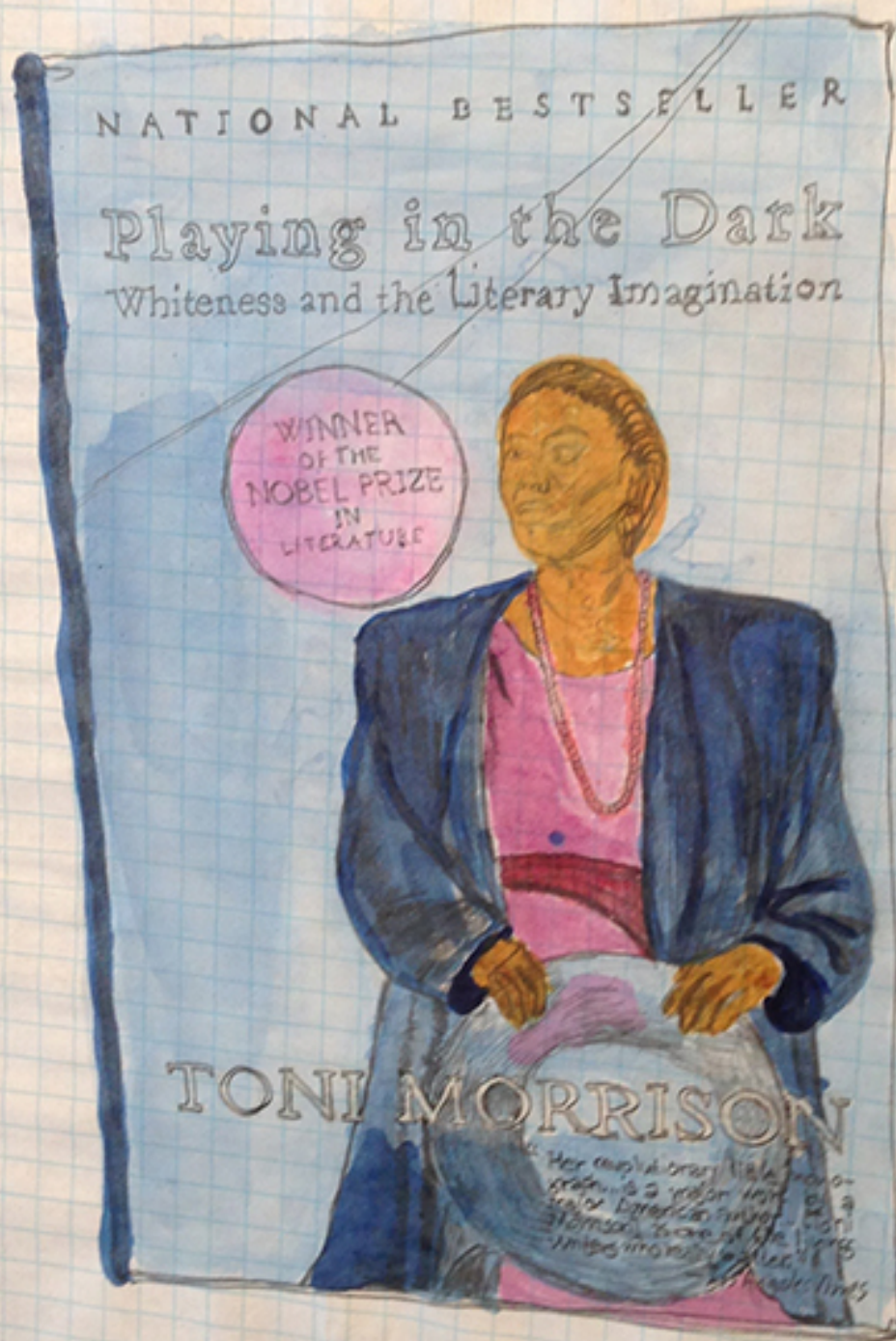
Christopher Kardambikis with Sediment





Chris Owen with Lil' Gallery





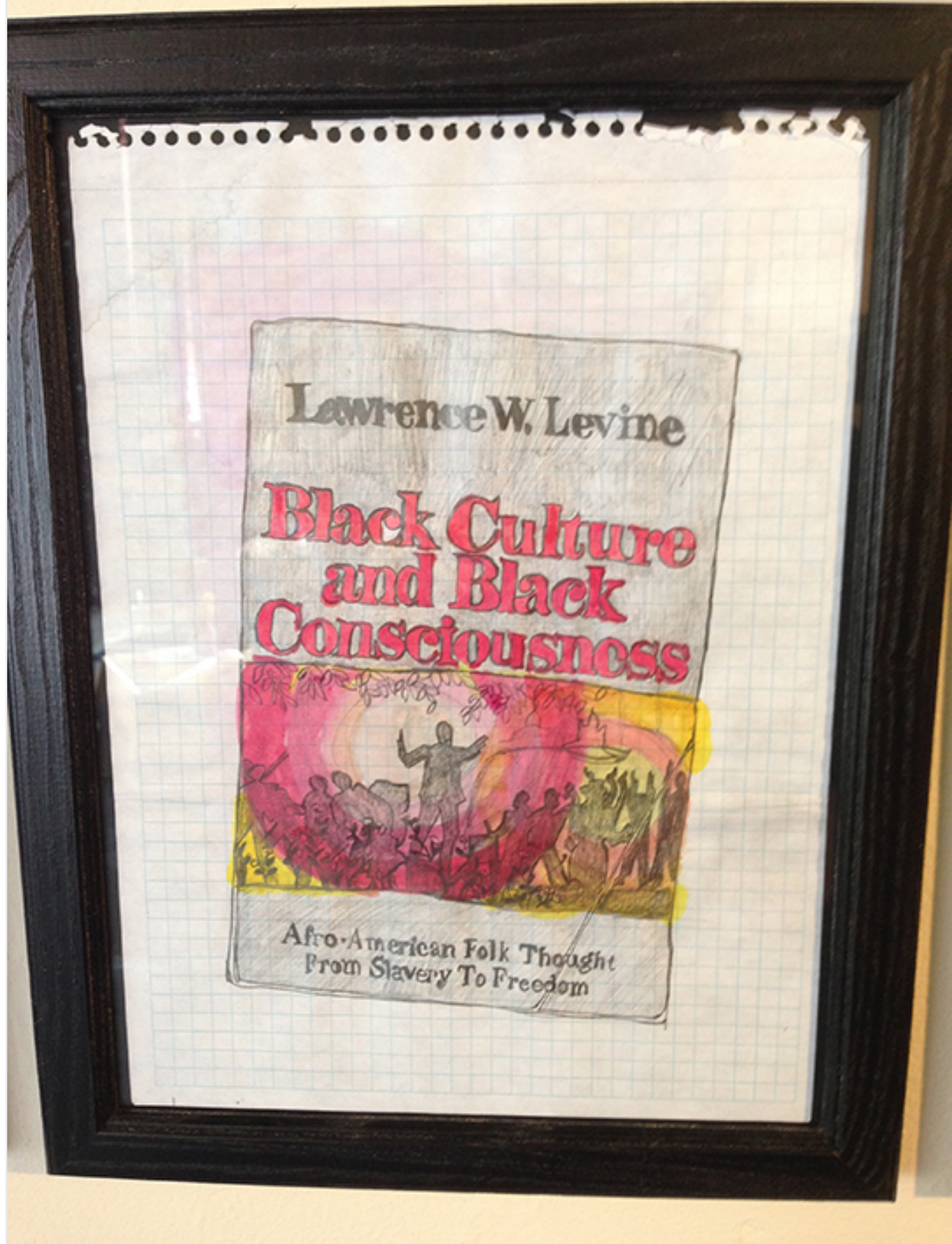
Cauleen Smith with Sediment





Cauleen Smith with Sediment





Cauleen Smith with Sediment





bb group exhibition featuring the work of Grace Davis, Christina Haines, Michael Jones McKean and John Zane Zappas





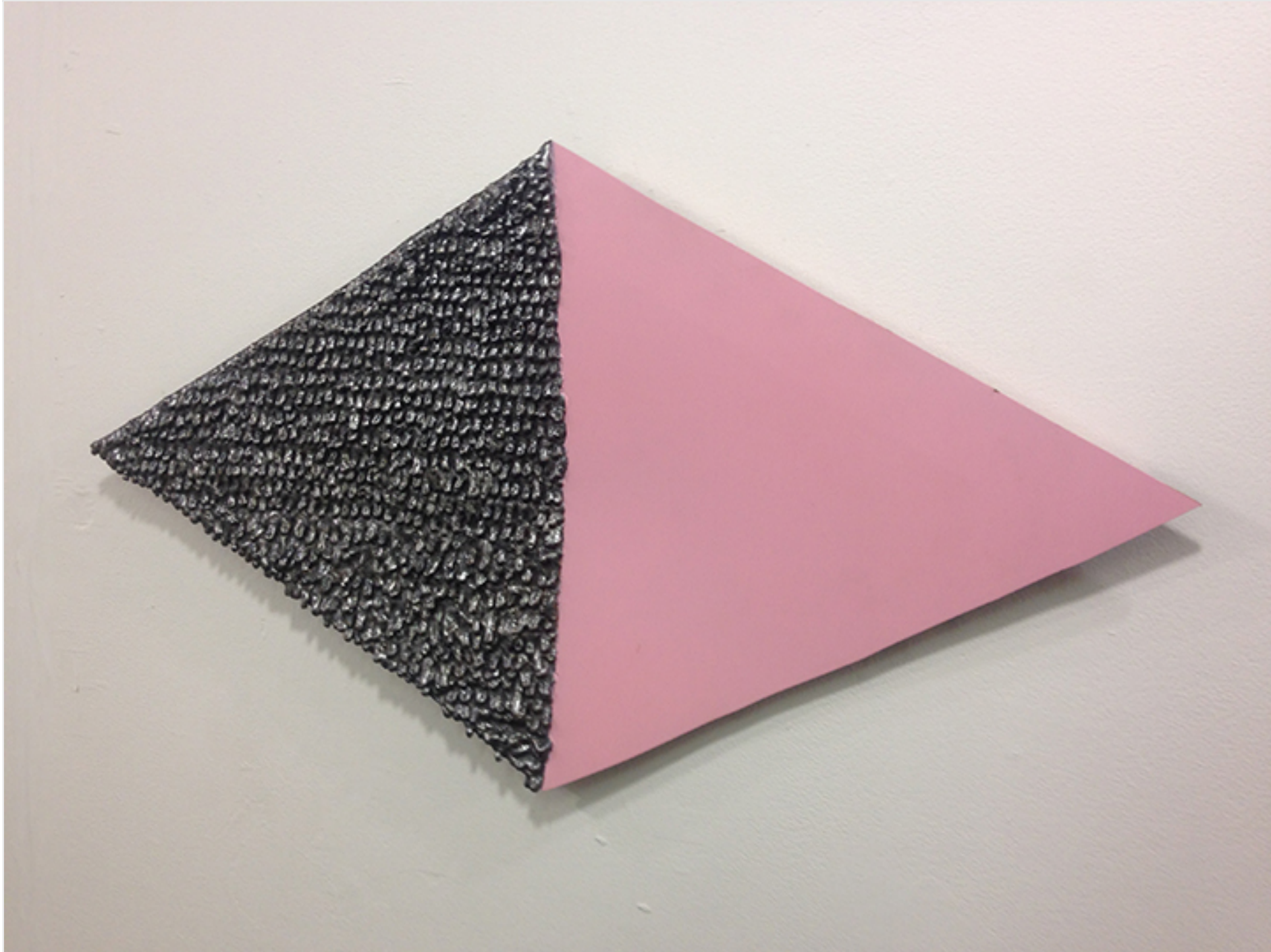
bb group exhibition featuring the work of Grace Davis, Christina Haines, Michael Jones McKean and John Zane Zappas





Audrey Van de Castle with Platform Gallery





Audrey Van de Castle with Platform Gallery





Andrew Thorp  
Bulim  
\$180

Andrew Thorp with Lil' Gallery





Alex Day with Lil' Gallery





Alex Ebstein with Transmitter





Alan Resnick with Open Space





Always Already Here Vol 1 with Ortega y Gasset Projects





Sold Artwork

Open Space’s second annual Artist Run Art Fair (formerly the Alternative Art Fair) happened July 17-19, 2015 and featured 18 artist-run and nonprofit organizations from Baltimore and beyond, including Press Press, Get Your Life! Productions, Open Space, Sediment, bb, Akimbo, Platform, Little Berlin, Furthermore, Lil’ Gallery, Transmitter, Guest Spot, FORCE, Invisible Majority, Ortega y Gasset, Terrault Contemporary, Make Studio, and Current.



**Author Dwayne Butcher is an artist, writer, curator and chicken wing connoisseur living in Baltimore, MD. Butcher takes the bus to work everyday where he runs a design, print and animation studio at UMBC. He has had the same haircut for ten years and his wife thought Brad Pitt looked like a woman until he got old, now she thinks he looks better. Fortunately for Butcher, his wife does not like pretty boys. To see his work and curatorial projects, visit [dwaynebutcher.com](http://dwaynebutcher.com), better yet, get in touch, he would love to have you over to the studio.**