

**TRAVIS SOMERVILLE**

Born in Atlanta, Georgia, 1963

Lives and works in San Francisco, California

**EDUCATION**

- 1984 San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, California  
1983 Independent Study with Jane Hammond, Baltimore, Maryland  
1982-3 Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, Maryland

**SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

- 2013 *Rebirth of a Nation*, Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, California  
2011 *Places I've Never Been*, San Francisco Arts Commission Gallery, San Francisco California  
2010 *Rededicated to the proposition...Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, California*  
*...a portion of the field.*, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, California  
2009 *Dedicated to the proposition...*Ben Maltz Gallery, Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles, California  
2008 *Authentic Facsimiles of a Nation*, Caren Golden Fine Art Gallery, New York, New York  
2007 *The Great American Let Down*, Overtones Gallery, Los Angeles, California  
2006 *American Cracker Too*, Alfred C. Glassell Jr. Exhibition Gallery, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
*American Cracker*, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, California  
*Peckerwood Nation*, Nathan Larramendy Gallery, Ojai, California  
2004 *More Songs of the South*, Nathan Larramendy Gallery, Ojai, California  
2003 *More Songs of the South*, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, California (catalogue)  
2002 *Another Song of the South*, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia  
2000 *Song of the South*, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, California  
*Travis Somerville: New Work*, University of Houston at Clearlake, Houston, Texas (catalogue)  
1998 *The Land of Cotton*, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, California  
1996 *I've Never Been to Acelandama: New Work (125th San Francisco Art Institute Anniversary Exhibit)*, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, California  
1994 *Introductions*, Morphos Gallery, San Francisco, California  
1993 *Travis Somerville*, Mace, San Francisco, California  
1992 *Travis Somerville*, Mace, San Francisco, California  
1991 *Travis Somerville*, Mace, San Francisco, California  
*Travis Somerville*, Show N Tell, San Francisco, California  
1990 *Travis Somerville*, Mace, San Francisco, California  
1989 *Travis Somerville*, 1078 Gallery, Chico, California  
*Travis Somerville*, Show N Tell, San Francisco, California

**SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

- 2012 *Newtopia: The State of Human Rights*, Contemporary Arts Exhibition in Mechelen and Brussels, Belgium.  
Curated by Katerina Gregos.  
*Portraiture Post Facebook*, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, California  
2011 *Reconsidering Regionalism: Images of the South 1951-*, Jule Collins Smith Museum of Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama  
2010 *Art Shack*, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, California  
*Secret Drawings*, Palo Alto Art Center, Palo Alto, California  
*PAPER!AWESOME!*, Baer Ridgway Exhibitions, San Francisco, California  
*Altered States: The Collection in Context*, Gatehouse Gallery at the di Rosa Reserve, Napa, California

- Collecting California*, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, California
- 2009 *Lincoln: Man, Myth, and Memory*, The Amistad Center for Art & Culture, Hartford, Connecticut
- 2008 *Reality Check*, Overtones, Los Angeles California
- The Audacity of Hope*, Catherine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, California
- 2008 *Portraying Lincoln*, Madden Arts Center, Decatur, Illinois
- 2007 *Civil Twilight*, Electric Works, San Francisco, California
- The Diane and Sandy Besser Collection*, de Young Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, San Francisco, California (catalogue)
- A House is Not a Home*, curated by Beth DeWoody, Caren Golden Fine Art, New York, New York
- smART*, Moody Gallery, Houston, Texas
- Martin Luther King Jr: Life, Times, and Legacy*, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, Connecticut
- Breaking Ground Breaking*, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, California
- 2006 *Strictly Graphite\* with a little bit of gouache*, College of Marin Art Gallery, Kentfield, California
- 2005 *Art of Engagement*, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, California (catalogue)
- Worth a Thousand Words; The Book as Image*, University Library Art Gallery, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California
- The Other Mainstream: Selections from the Collection of Mikki and Stanley Weithorn*, Arizona State University Art Museum, Tempe, Arizona (catalogue)
- Visual Politics: The Art of Engagement*, Gibson Family Gallery and Plaza Gallery, San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, California (catalogue)
- 2003 *Spectrum*, Access Institute, San Francisco, California
- Au Naturel*, di Rosa Preserve: Art & Nature, Napa, California
- What Lies B'(N)eath*, Florida A & M University, Tallahassee, Florida (catalogue)
- Sprout*, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, California
- Cut, Copy, Paste: The Art of Contemporary Collage*, de Saisset Museum at Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California
- Whiteness, A Wayward Construction*, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, California. Exhibition traveled to University of Virginia Art Museum, Charlottesville, Virginia (catalogue)
- 2002 *In the Spirit of Martin: The Living Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC. Exhibition traveled to Charles Wright Museum, Detroit, Michigan; The Bass Museum, Miami Beach, Florida; Frederick Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis, Minnesota; The Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis, Tennessee; Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Montgomery, Alabama (catalogue)
- The Lost Frontier: SD02*, Spruce Street Forum, San Diego, California
- 2001 *10th Anniversary Exhibition*, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, California
- 2000 *Made in California*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California (catalogue)
- 1999 *Collector ~ Curator*, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, California
- Spinal Epidural, Please!* Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, California
- 1997 *Above the Border/Below the Border*, Monte Clark Gallery, Vancouver, Canada (catalogue)
- 1996 *(Small) Discards, Secession*, San Francisco, California
- Consumption*, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, California
- 1995 *Shades*, Consejo Mundial de Artistas Visuales, Mexico City, Mexico. Curated by Mark Mace
- 1994 *Something for Everyone*, Morphos Gallery, San Francisco, California
- Bibliophilia: Books by Artists*, Morphos Gallery, San Francisco, California
- 1991 *Fresh Squeezed: Forty Artists from California*, Budapest Gallery, Budapest, Hungary
- The Collage of St. Catherine*, Catherine G. Murphy Galleries, St. Paul, Minnesota

#### AWARDS/LECTURES/RESIDENCY

- 2011 Artadia Fellowship Residency at the International Studio and Curatorial Program, New York
- Sirius Arts Center, Cork, Ireland
- 2010 Joan Mitchell Foundation
- 2010 *Dedicated to the proposition*. Ben Maltz Gallery, Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles, California.
- Issues and Artists*. The Arts, University of California Santa Cruz Media Theater, Santa Cruz, California
- 2000 The Art Council Grant
- Artist in Residence, University of Houston at Clearlake, Houston, Texas

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Sussman, Matt. "Uncomfortable Truths." *Guardian*, October 12 – 18, 2011
- Reed-Davidson, Travis. "Renewing our Dedication to the Proposition." ROMAG (Otis College of Art and Design – Magazine) Vol 8, 2010
- Scarborough, James. "Travis Somerville at Charlie James Gallery." *Artillery*, Volume 4, May/June 2010
- Turner, Cherie Louise. "Travis Somerville." *Visual Art Source*, 2010
- Stallings, Tyler. "Collecting California Selections from Laguna Art Museum." 2010
- Linton, Meg, Mickalene Thomas. *Travis Somerville, Dedicated to the proposition...* 2010
- Melrod, Gerorge, Christian L. Frock, Universities Galleries." Art Ltd, January 2010
- Buckley, Annie. "Artforum.com: Critics' Picks." *Artforum.com*, October 27, 2009
- Burgard, Timothy Anglin, Karin Breuer, and Jill D'Alessandro. "Keeping Up with Traditions, Contemporary Drawings in the Besser Collection." *The Diane and Sandy Besser Collection: A Gift to the Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco*, 2007
- Bisbort, Alan. "Honesty at Last The Wadsworth Amistad Center Gets Maniacal About Lincoln," *Hartford Advocate*, April 8, 2009
- Young, Paul. "Home of the Brave." Art Ltd, November 2008.
- Ed. "Art Day Part II." [www.napanest.typepad.com](http://napanest.typepad.com), July 2, 2008. <<http://napanest.typepad.com/flourish/>>.
- Wolff, Rachel. "Artist Travis Somerville has the World's Creepiest Basement." [www.nymag.com](http://nymag.com), January 10, 2008. <<http://nymag.com/daily/entertainment/2008/01/10/>>.
- Eastman, Dale. "A collector's guide to the exploding art market." *San Francisco Magazine*, January 2008.
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- Tibbits, Ashley. "Clayton Murdach and Travis Somerville: The Great American Let Down." *Flavorpill Los Angeles*, November 3, 2007. <<http://flavorpill.com/losangeles/events/2007/11/3/the-great-american-let-down-works-by-clayton-murdach-and-travis-somerville>>.
- Burgard, Timothy Anglin, Karin Breuer and Jill D'Alessandro. *The Diane and Sandy Besser Collection*. San Francisco, California. Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco: 2007.
- Feinstein, Lea. "Grand Opening." *SF Weekly*, June 13, 2007.
- Frock, Christian. *Breaking Ground Breaking*. San Francisco, California. Catharine Clark Gallery: 2007.
- Stuart, Reginald. "The Ongoing Struggle to Finance Black History." *The Crisis*, January/February 2007.
- Smith, Brianna. "Cultural Stimuli in SF." [www.sf.flavorpill.net](http://www.sf.flavorpill.net), May 30 – June 5, 2006. <[http://sf.flavorpill.net/current\\_mailer.jsp#cracker](http://sf.flavorpill.net/current_mailer.jsp#cracker)>
- Singer, Matthew. "Question Authority." *Ventura County Reporter*, February 2006.
- Featured Artist. *San Jose Museum of Art Brochure*. January 2006.
- von Busack, Richard. "No Blood for Oils." *Silicon Valley Metro*, November 23 – 29, 2005.
- Selz, Peter. *Art of Engagement: Visual Politics in California and Beyond*. Berkeley, California. University of California, Berkeley Press. San Jose Museum of Art, October 2005.
- Moore, Deborah. "Southern Hospitality." November 2, 2004. <<http://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/NEWS/StoryLifestylecopydeborah05.htm>>.
- Campbell, Rob. "A Year in Review." *Santa Barbara Magazine*, September 2004.
- "Urban Life: Best Cultural Happenings." *San Francisco Magazine*, July 2004.
- Bing, Alison. "Hitting Home: The Work of Travis Somerville and Jessamyn Lovell." *Kitchen Sink*, June 2004.
- Selz, Peter. "Reviews: Travis Somerville at Catharine Clark." *Art in America*, March 2004.
- Woodard, Josef. "No Holds Barred with this Exhibit." *The Los Angeles Times*, February 5, 2004.
- Campbell, Rob. "Zip-A-Dee-Do-Dah: Travis Somerville Rips Apart Racism while Whistling Dixie." *Ventura Country Reporter*, January 29, 2004.
- Laramendy, Nathan. "More Songs of the South." *Voice*, January 19, 2004.
- Phelps, Jesse. "More Songs of the South: Socio-historical with Bite." *Ojai Valley News*, January 7, 2004.
- Takhar, Amrieka, "Whiteness, A Wayward Construction." January 3, 2004 <<http://www.stretcher.org/reviews/rev6.php>>.
- Spalding, David. "Outside the Lines: Conversations with John Bankston and Travis Somerville." *Artweek*, November 2003.
- Campbell, Clayton. "The Last White Art Show." *FlashArt*, October/November 2003.
- "'Cut, Copy, Paste: The Art of Contemporary Collage' at the de Saisset Museum." *Artweek*, July/August 2003.
- Bing, Alison. "Travis Somerville: He Ain't Whistling Dixie." September 11, 2004 <<http://www.sfgate.com>>.
- Janku, Laura and Barry Gifford. *More Songs of the South*. San Francisco, California, USA. Catharine Clark Gallery: 2003.
- Carasso, Roberta. "'Whiteness, A Wayward Construction' at the Laguna Art Museum." *Artweek*, June 2003.

Robinson, P.J. "Death Does *Not* Quench the Spirit: Martin Lives!" *The Metro Herald*, May 30, 2003.

Haygood, Wil. "Images 'In the Spirit of Martin.'" *The Washington Post*, May 26, 2003.

Kelly, Kevin. "Artist's Work Graces Smithsonian Show." *Saturday Times Sentinel*, May 5, 2003.

Roediger, David R., Amelia Jones and Ken Gonzales-Day. *Whiteness: A Wayward Construction*. Laguna Beach, California. Laguna Art Museum: March 2003.

Cushman, Jennifer. "The Collectors: The Weithorn Collection." *Scottsdale Life*, January 2003.

Pincus, Robert L. "'Lost Frontier' a jumping-off spot." *The San Diego Union-Tribune*, October 2002.

Sylva, David. "MLK legacy art exhibit new at Bass." *The Miami Herald*, September 5, 2002.

Green, Roger. "Artists explore life of King." *Ann Arbor News*, January 20, 2002.

Cunningham, Candice. "Exhibit celebrates King's spirit." *Michigan Chronicle*, January 16, 2002.

Jones, Phillip M. "Spirit of Martin Tribute" *Michigan Chronicle*, January 16, 2002.

Associated Press. "Exhibit Honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. Opens Today." *Fairfield Daily Republic*, January 13, 2002.

Associated Press. "Smithsonian Exhibit Honoring King to Open This Weekend," *The Morning Journal* (Lorain, Ohio), January 12, 2002.

"MLK's spirit found in artists' works," *The News Press* (Fort Meyers, Florida), January 12, 2002.

Associated Press. "'In the Spirit of Martin' Smithsonian exhibition honoring Martin Luther King Jr. to open in Detroit," *Citizen Patriot* (Jackson, Mississippi), January 11, 2002.

Athitakis, Mark. "Southern Discomfort," *San Francisco Weekly*, October 24 – 30, 2001.

Baron, Stephanie, Sheri Bernstein and Ilene Susan Fort. *Made in California*. Berkeley, California. University of California, Berkeley Press: 2000.

Hamlin, Jessie. "Painting the Tensions of the South." *The San Francisco Chronicle*, December 2000.

Roche, Harry. "Rockin' Dixie." *San Francisco Weekly*, December 2000.

Hamlin, Jessie. "Paper Chase." *The San Francisco Chronicle Datebook*, April 24, 2000.

Willour, Clint. *Travis Somerville*. Houston, Texas. University of Houston at Clear Lake: 2000.

Verve Editions. *In the Spirit of Martin: The Living Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* Smithsonian Institution, Washington D. C. January 2000.

Kundahl, Gustavus. "Collector-Curator." *Artweek*, February 2000.

Roche, Harry. "Travis Somerville and Don Ed Hardy at Catharine Clark Gallery." *Artweek*, January 1999.

"Travis Somerville and Don Ed Hardy at Catharine Clark Gallery." *San Francisco Metropolitan Magazine*, December 21, 1998.

Lucie Smith, Edward, ed. *Zoo: Animals in Art*. New York, New York. Watson-Guption: 1998.

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Scott, Michael. "Gallery Offers Exchange of Artistic Visions Across the Border." *The Vancouver Sun*, March 13, 1997.

Porges, Maria. Catalogue Essay. *Above the Border/Below the Border*. Vancouver, Canada / San Francisco, California, USA. March 1997.

Scott, Michael. "The Darker Side of Earthly Paradise." *The Vancouver Sun*, February 22, 1997.

Roche, Harry. "Critic's Choice." *San Francisco Bay Guardian*, May 8, 1996.

Hodder, Monroe. "San Francisco Art Dealer's Association Introductions '94: Travis Somerville." *Artweek*, August 4, 1994.

Clark, Catharine. "Witness." *West Magazine*, Winter 1994/95.

Roche, Harry. "Critic's Choice." *San Francisco Bay Guardian*, August 3, 1994.

Reproduction. "Visual Arts Calander." *San Francisco Arts Monthly*, August, 1994.

Friedman, Roberto. "The Thrill of the New and Some Déjà vu." *San Francisco Bay Area Reporter*, July 14, 1994.

Gerhard, Susan. "Series: Introductions '94." *San Francisco Bay Guardian*, July 6, 1994.

Cohn, Terri. "A Human Condition." *Artweek*, September 17, 1992.

Roche, Harry. "Critic's Choice." *San Francisco Bay Guardian*, August 19, 1992.

## SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, San Diego, California

21c Museum, Louisville, Kentucky

The Achenbach Collection of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, San Francisco, California

di Rosa Preserve: Art & Nature, Napa, California

Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, California

Progressive Art Collection, Mayfield Village, Ohio

San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, California

Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota