CATHARINE CLARK GALLERY

art on paper

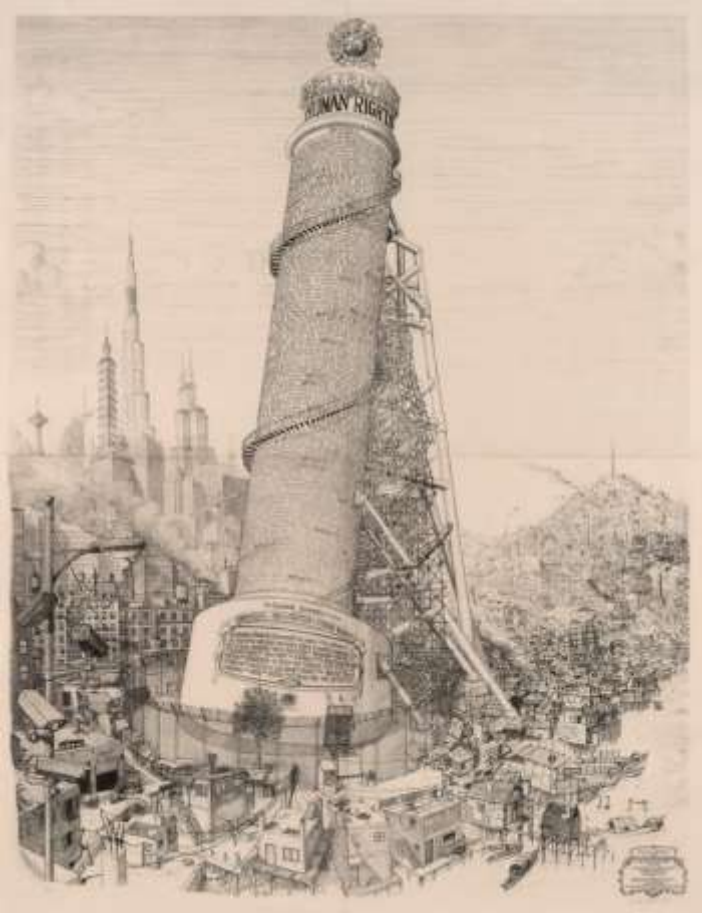
New York City

March 5 – 8, 2015

Pier 36, Downtown Manhattan

BOOTH 405

Featuring the work of Sandow Birk



New York, NY: Catharine Clark Gallery announces our participation in **art on paper** thepaperfair.com, an art fair from the producers of Miami Project and artMRKT San Francisco. The inaugural launch of **art on paper** will take place March 5 – 8, 2015 in Manhattan's Lower East Side at Pier 36. Exhibiting galleries will feature work by artists who look to paper as a major influence in their artistic practices. Focusing on the medium of paper as a conversational catalyst positions this art fair as a unique forum for exhibition. Catharine Clark Gallery will join with the best of modern and contemporary art galleries to feature work by Sandow Birk from his *Imaginary Monuments Series*. In 2007, Birk began to create monumental drawings and engravings that consider documents which shape our world as a kind of architecture. All the engravings are direct gravure rendered on multiple copper plates. The compositions for the initial two prints in the series were inspired by the epic, multi-block woodcut referred to as *The Triumphal Arch of Emperor Maximilian* by Albrecht Dürer, and by the political engravings titled *The Miseries of War* by Jacques Callot. Catharine Clark's booth will present three unique

Sandow Birk

Universal Declaration of Human Rights from *Imaginary Monuments Series* (2013)

Direct gravure etching from four copper plates on handmade gampi paper, backed with sekishu kozo paper. Edition of 25 + 8 AP. 62 1/2 x 48 inches. Co-published by Paul Mullowney and Catharine Clark Gallery. 62 ½ x 48 inches.

ink on paper drawings, including one of a letter from Christopher Columbus to King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain chronicling his voyage and discoveries in the 'new world'. This work will be displayed for the first time at **art on paper** 2015. Other works from this series feature historical documents and foundational texts ranging from United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, the Constitution of the United States, pre-civil rights era miscegenation and Jim Crow laws, the Defense of Marriage Act, the Uniform Code of Military Justice and other subjects. In addition, works from Sandow Birk's *American Qur'an* series will be exhibited in Booth 405. Since 2001, Birk has created a hand transcribed and illuminated manuscript of the Qur'an based on an 1861 English translation. Birk's *American Qur'an* is a consideration of the holy text against the backdrop of scenes from contemporary American life. *American Qur'an* will be published as a more than 400 page tome by W.W. Norton & Company in the Fall of 2015, and will accompany a museum exhibition of the entire project organized by Dan Cameron at the Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, California and travelling to the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at the University of Oregon, Eugene.

art on paper | Sandow Birk | Booth 405

March 5 – March 8, 2015

NYC, Lower East Side, Pier 36

VIP Preview Thursday March 5

5:30 – 8 pm Preview
8:00 – 10:00 pm Party

Website www.thepaperfair.com

Regular Fair Hours

Friday, March 6	11:00am to 7:00pm
Saturday, March 7	11:00am to 7:00pm
Sunday, March 8	11:00am to 6:00pm

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Sandow Birk is a graduate of the Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles, California. His work largely concerns itself with issues pertinent to the politics of contemporary life, and he borrows liberally from art history for his work's compositional and conceptual framework. He is a painter, sculptor, printmaker, filmmaker and installation artist, and his projects are often expansive in scope, taking on great works of literature, religion, and foundational documents. His quest is for subjects that are challenging and germane to cogent political topics and have included urban violence, graffiti, the war in Iraq, prison growth, water rights in California, manifest destiny, iconographic texts, surfing, and skateboarding. Birk's work is exhibited internationally in museums and galleries, and is represented in public and museum collections, including San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, California; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles, California; the New York Historical Society and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, New York; the Harvard Art Museums in Cambridge, Massachusetts; Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Roma, Italy; and Stadtisches Kunstmuseum in Reutlingen, Germany. The publication of *American Qur'an* by W. W. Norton & Company coincides with solo exhibitions at Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, the Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, and the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at the University of Oregon, Eugene. Birk has received numerous grants and fellowships including an NEA Travel Grant to Mexico City (1995), a Guggenheim Fellowship (1996), a Fulbright Fellowship to Rio de Janeiro (1996), a Getty Fellowship (1999), a City of Los Angeles Fellowship (2001), and an Artist Research Fellowship at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC (2007). Birk has been an artist in residence at the Cite Internationale des Arts in Paris (2008), the Ballinglen Arts Foundation in Ireland, the Montalvo Center for the Art in Saratoga, California (2011), and the Alila Villas Soori, in Bali, Indonesia (2012). In 2014, Birk was named a United States Artist Knight Fellow. Birk is represented by Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco, where he has exhibited his work since 1994.