

Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco | April 11
.....**artMRKT San Francisco Booth 601**
.....**May 16-19 | Fair Hours Below**
.....**artMRKT San Francisco at Fort Mason Center**
Marina Boulevard | San Francisco, CA 94123

Catharine Clark Gallery announces our participation in **artMRKT San Francisco 2013**, at Fort Mason Center from **May 16 – 19, 2013**. In Booth 601, Catharine Clark Gallery will feature an exhibit on the subject of human rights, with the newest Sandow Birk etching *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* as the centerpiece of the exhibition. The 2013 artMRKT San Francisco is relocated to Fort Mason and opens to the public May 16 – 19 (hours below).

Catharine Clark Gallery has selected artwork that reflects on the complicated public debate around freedom of speech and its intimate relationship with human rights. Erosion of civil liberties and the impact that it has on society is of deep concern to many. Freedom of speech is an issue central to artistic practice, and also to civil liberties. It follows that the topic of freedom of speech is highly relevant to many artists as they grapple with the politics of our day and history on which those politics have been built. The selection of work for the booth attempts to wrestle with the myriad and complex ways artists address the topic, which is often subjective, personal, and on occasion, debatable. Working across a wide range of media, the artwork chosen for the booth reflects the different angles by which artists in the gallery's program address the topic of freedom of speech, civil liberties, and human rights: directly and with gravity, with humor and wit, with irony, with personal stories, with language, and with static and time-based media.



Walter Robinson. *Capitol Hill Billy*, 2012. Plywood, steel, polyurethane plastic, rubber, digital print on Tyvek. 32 ½ x 32 x 21 inches

The center piece of Booth 601 are two works by **Sandow Birk** from his *Imaginary Monuments Series*: *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* and *Monument to the Constitution of the United States*. The etching is inspired by the United Nation's historical document *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, which claims basic human rights and dignity, "for all peoples and all nations." Combining architectural references with written text, Birk creates an imaginary monument that both illuminates and critiques the lofty ideas in the document, "exposing the (mis)application and (mis) interpretation" of the declaration. A looming, teetering pillar, based on the obelisk at the Place Vendôme in Paris barely supported by scaffolds and pipes, dominates the center of the work while the words of the articles entwine the column. Enclosed behind barbed wire, the structure is barred from both the public and global cityscape in the foreground, which traverses the slums of Asia, the shantytowns of Africa and the skyscrapers of New York. The words "freedom," "equality" and "universal" mark a sharp and poignant contrast to the scene Birk portrays of contemporary life. Apparently, access to human rights is in Birk's view not equally provided.

Spanning the breadth of the gallery's program, Catharine Clark Gallery's exhibition for artMRKT explores the conflicted history of civil liberties. The exhibition features work that openly grapples with the idealism of equality, whether through political, social, or psychological lenses. **Walter Robinson's** *Capitol Hill Billy* sculpture mocks the multifaceted, hot button issue of dependency in the United States. The work comments on the sway held by Chinese manufacturers over the U.S. economy. The sculpture is a six-pack with baby bottle nipple tops, the package branding resembles United States dollar with the logo "brewed and bottled by Federal lobby Pop Corp, Shēnzhèn China." *Allegory of the Prisoner's Dilemma*, by **Andy Diaz Hope** and **Laurel Roth**, darkly meditates on history of human conflict through architecture. The large scale tapestry brings together imagery of iconic buildings in a tower-like structure, with Egyptian pyramids, Roman Coliseum, and the Chrysler Building culminate in a dystopian mushroom cloud, suggesting a Tower of Babel. Additionally, Catharine Clark Gallery is pleased to include two works by renowned New York artist **Titus Kaphar**, whose work explores psychology, narrative, and memory. This marks the beginning of west coast presence for the artist at Catharine Clark Gallery.

artMRKT Fair at Fort Mason: Hours

Thursday, May 16	ArtCare Award for Excellence in Civic Arts Patronage 5 – 6pm Opening Night Preview Reception 6 – 8pm Opening Night Party 8 – 10:30pm
Friday, May 17	11am - 7pm
Saturday, May 18	11am – 7pm Panel on New Media 11:30am
Sunday, May 19	Noon – 6pm

About Catharine Clark Gallery

Established in 1991, Catharine Clark Gallery exhibits the work of contemporary artists. A wide range of media is represented in the gallery's program with an emphasis on content driven work. The gallery has pioneered the presentation of new media art in San Francisco, and is the first commercial gallery in the area with a dedicated media room. Exhibitions are hosted on a six-week schedule, featuring work by one or two solo artist in addition to media room installations. Additionally the gallery regularly participates in national and international art fairs. The gallery will open at its 248 Utah Street location in the Summer of 2013. In the meantime, it is open by appointment: 415.399.1439 or (m) 415.519.1439. Catharine Clark and staff have several extra-mural programs planned for April, May, and June. For more information about programming or artists, please contact gallery staff: info@cclarkgallery.com or visit: www.cclarkgallery.com.

This new location, again designed by Los Angeles based Tim Campbell, is within the neighborhood of the San Francisco Design Center and Showplace Square. Catharine Clark Gallery will add to the emerging cultural character of Potrero Hill, which currently includes California College of the Arts (CCA), the CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, and the Museum of Craft and Design. In 2010, Catharine Clark Gallery opened a pop up space in a residential apartment in New York's Chelsea neighborhood (313 West 14th Street, 2F, between 8th and 9th Avenues). Exhibits, performances and installations of gallery artists' work are presented at the New York location several times a year. The next exhibition, May 10-12, features the work of **Nina Katchadourian**.

For further information, please contact:

Stephanie Smith
Catharine Clark Gallery
415.399-1439
marketing@cclarkgallery.com

2013 Advanced Exhibition Listings

San Francisco	New York	Art Fairs
By appointment 415.399.1439 (M) 415.519.1439	May 10 -12 Solo Exhibition: Nina Katchadourian <i>Sorted Books</i> In conjunction with the release of <i>Sorted Books</i> , published by Chronicle Books in 2013	May 16-19 artMRKT San Francisco Oct 10-13 Texas Contemporary, Houston