

GEOFFREY TODD SMITH

b. 1973, Cleveland, OH
Lives and works in Chicago, IL

EDUCATION

- 1997 MFA, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL
1995 BFA, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Ruffle Wraith, The Front, New Orleans, LA
2018 Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
2015 Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
2013 *GEOFFREY TODD SMITH Forcefields*. Union League Club of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Secret Lives of Rainbows. Luis de Jesus, Los Angeles, CA
2012 *LOOKER*, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
FEEL HARDER, Nudashank, Baltimore
2011 *Casual X*, Luis de Jesus, Los Angeles, CA
2009 solo booth, NADA Art Fair, Miami Beach, FL w/ Western Exhibitions
Geoffrey Todd Smith is a Friend to Beauty!, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
I Could Look at Myself in Your Eyes Forever. Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
2008 *Looking You Up to Look You Down*, Main Gallery, Las Vegas, NV
Here's Looking at You Looking at Me Kid, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
2007 *Geoffrey Todd Smith Will Romance You When He is Good and Ready*, Western Exhibitions, Chicago,
2006 *The Dynamite That I Might Light*, Butcher Shop/ Dogmatic Gallery, Chicago, IL
2005 *A Map of the Tunnels From My Bedroom To Yours*, Silo, Stoughton, WI

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 *Kantoor*, DeGroot Fine Art, Chicago, IL
With a Capital P: Selections by Six Painters, Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst, IL
2018 *Local Comfort*, LVL3 Gallery, Chicago, IL
2018 *Art Fair*, The Porch Gallery, Minneapolis, MN
2017 *Brave New York*, Geoffery Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA
Toy Box: Inspiration Through Play, Illinois State Museum Lockport Gallery, Lockport, IL

- A Tiny Rivulet in the Distant Forest*, curated by Michael Velliquette, ArtStart, Rhinelander, WI.
Underlying system is not known, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
- 2016 *Chicago and Vicinity*, Shane Campbell Gallery, 2021 S Wabash Ave, Chicago, IL
- 2015 *Gallery Damacy*, Hidden Dog, Chicago IL.
Hyper/Hypo, It's All About Things, Port Chester, NY
Intimate Jest, Left Field, San Luis Obispo, CA.
Inaugural Group Show, Left Field, San Luis Obispo, CA
PRTY PPL, Curated by Josh Reames, Circuit12 Contemporary. Dallas, TX.
Cut From The Same Cloth, Curated by John Weston, Charlie James Gallery. Los Angeles, CA
- 2014 *Rocket Run: Abstraction from Chicago*. Elder Gallery, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, NE.
I'm Jealous of Your Failure. University of Illinois Springfield Visual Arts Gallery.
Orphans in the Storm, Lovey Town, Madison, WI.
Chicago Now, The Hughes Gallery, Sydney, Australia.
We do what we like and like what we do, Western Exhibitions, Chicago
TELL THEM I HATE THEM. Greenpoint Terminal Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Roving Room, curated by Kelly Kaczynski and Cori Williams, Habersham Mills, Demorest, Georgia
- 2013 *Acid Summer*, DCKT. New York, NY
Matt Irie and Geoffrey Todd Smith, Northeastern Illinois University Galleries. Chicago, IL
- 2012 *Afterimage*, Depaul Museum of Art, Chicago, IL
The John Riepenhoff Experience presents RTC Collaborates, Pepin Moore, Los Angeles, CA
R & D, curated by Britton Bertran, Manifold, Chicago
Painted, curated by Tyson Reeder. The Green Gallery, Milwaukee, WI
- 2011 *A Person of Color: a mostly orange exhibition*, The Green Gallery, Milwaukee, WI
Blaque Lyte, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
RTC &, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
- 2010 *Strategic Abstraction*, Geoffrey Young Gallery, Great Barrington, MA
Passion for Pattern, Hinsdale Center for the Arts, Hinsdale, IL
Let There Be Geo A+D Gallery, Columbia College, Chicago, IL
PAPER! AWESOME!, Curated by Brion Nuda Rosch, Baer Ridgway in San Francisco
Painter's Paintings, Western Exhibitions, Chicago, IL
- 2009 *What is Design?*, Unit B (Gallery), San Antonio, TX
group show, Synchronicity, Los Angeles, CA
United States of Color vs. Grand Theft Auto, Seminal Projects, San Diego, CA
Pattern, Hallway Projects, San Francisco, CA
- 2008 *West, Wester, Westest*, Fecal Face Dot Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2007 *Obsessive Explosive*, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL
The Uncertainty Principle: Drawing in the Golden Age of Worry, NIU Art Museum, DeKalb, IL
- 2006 *Drawing Works*, Sling Shot Gallery, Madison, IL
Klusterfudge, Telephone Booth Gallery, Kansas City, MO
18th Biennial Exhibition, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL
- 2005 *Chicago Sampler*, University of St. Francis, Joliet, IL
Into the Midst, Mixture Contemporary, Houston, TX
Group Show, Butcher Shop / Dogmatic Gallery, Chicago, IL

- 2004 *Organically Grown*, SUNY, Purchase, NY
Pay Attention, Unit B Gallery, Chicago, IL
All About Drawing, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE
- 2003 *Biennial Exhibition*, South Bend Regional Art Museum, South Bend, IN
These Days, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- 2002 *Realm of the Lair*, Joymore Gallery, Chicago, IL
Summer Group Show, Contemporary Art Workshop, Chicago, IL
National Drawing Exhibition, Muscarelle Museum, Williamsburg, VA

COLLECTIONS

Fidelity Investments Corporate Art Collection
Hallmark Inc. Collection, Kansas City, MO
Harper College, Palatine, IL
Jager Collection, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Microsoft Corporation
Mile Square Health Center, University of Illinois-Chicago
Soho House, Chicago
South Bend Regional Art Museum, South Bend, IN

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2018 LVL3. "Local Comfort." September 22, 2018.
- 2018 LVL3. "Artist of the Week." July 24, 2018.
New City. Falkowski. "Frenetic and Fabulous Grids and Dots, A Review of Geoffrey Todd Smith at Western Exhibitions." April 3, 2018
- 2017 Juxtapoz. "Geoffrey Todd Smith's Visually Confounding And Colorfully Explosive Compositions." April 3, 2017.
- 2015 Chicago Magazine. Obaro, Tomi. "Five Great Things to Do in Chicago This Week". October 22, 2015.
Chicago Magazine. Fomberg, Jason. "Fall's 10 Most Anticipated Art Exhibitions." September 15, 2015
New Times SLO. Catanzarite, Adriana. "Intimately connected: SLO gallery Left Field presents its second art exhibit, Intimate Jest". April 1, 2015.
Bad at Sports. Blake, Kevin B. "The Nostalgia for Paradise is The Paradigm of Time." January 7, 2015
- 2014 Inside/Within. Sierzputowski, Kate. "Geoffrey Todd Smith's Diaristic Abstractions". August 2014
New City. Toale, Erin. "Review: *We do what we like and like what we do*", July 3, 2014.
under the gum tree: July 2014.
Visual Art by Geoffrey Todd Smith. Publisher: ThinkHouse Collective, Sacramento, California. 3
- 2013 Onyx Premium (Qatar Airlines). Martin, Karen. "Geoffrey Todd Smith". April 2013
- 2012 New American Paintings Blog. Reames, Josh. "Geoffrey Todd Smith at Western Exhibitions". Oct. 9, 2012
The Seen. Niendorf, Emmaline. "Western Exhibitions // Geoffrey Todd Smith". October 9, 2012
BAS-relief. Brophy, Madeline. "Feel the Beat". September 17, 2012
Flavorpill. Ritchie, Abraham. "Editor's Pick: Geoffrey Todd Smith LOOKER". September 9, 2012

- 60 Inches from Center. Rhoden, Sierra Nicole. "Geoffrey Todd Smith and Josh Mannis at Western Exhibitions". October 1, 2012
Make Space, Judd, Jason. "Other Investigations: Geoffrey Todd Smith". May 2012
Brown Paper Bag, Barnes, Sara E. "Nudashank // Sophiajacob // Gallery Four". May 2012
Flavorpill. Ritchie, Abraham. "Geoffrey Todd Smith and Mike Rea: Sharks, Dicks, and Drugs". April 2012
- 2011 art ltd. Enholm, Molly. "Geoffrey Todd Smith" (profile). March 2011
New American Paintings, Issue 95 (Midwest)
- 2010 The Open Daybook. Earle, David. Mark Batty Publisher. November 2010
Chicago Sun-Times. "Art work challenges viewers to find the pattern behind the pattern" Bosch, Sandy Illian. May 27, 2010
- 2009 Joanne Mattera Art Blog. "Fair and Fair Alike: Miami 2009. The Wrap-up Awards!". Dec. 30
Chicago Tribune Magazine. "Art in Chicago: On View". April 19
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Huffington Post. Klein, Paul. "...Art in the Galleries is Improving" April 3
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- 2008 Las Vegas Weekly. "Sixty Seven Words about... Geoffrey Todd Smith" Oct. 23
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Kill City. Rich. "Geoffrey Todd Smith"
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- 2007 Chicago Magazine. Topor, Joanna. "After Pashcke". April 2007
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- 2006 Artinfo.com. Janku, Laura Richard. "Fair Report: Affair@the Jupiter." Oct. 1, 2006
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- 2004 UR. "Scene/Heard". June Edition.

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Lives and works in Chicago, IL

Geoffrey Todd Smith creates complex, rule-based abstractions that place him firmly within the orbit of modern American art, but with a wandering eye to the future. His vision is guided by self-imposed limitations that instill order to an otherwise meandering dream-like process. The result is a stylish eruption of concentrated color and form, enveloped in a hand-drawn web of doodled spikes and ruffles and embedded with a rhythmic plague of polka dotted interference. The playfully constructed titles for each work provide an additional climate of atmosphere and mood without completely revealing a narrative. Smith works with a range of media including gel pens, graphite, collage, enamel paint, acrylic and oil.

Says Smith, “Doodling within self-imposed limitations has long been my way to induce introspection and conjure new images. In these recent works on paper, wavy bands of color and curvaceous lines overlap repeatedly to create dense, fluttering spaces. A cursory Rorschach-like inspection provides the viewer an array of elusive possibilities: cartoon eyes throwing shade, biting mouths adorned with shark-like teeth and clownish smirks, butterfly wings, and veils of alternating microscopic and celestial forms. In the end, I play the role of a hard working spider, entombing shapes in a handmade, resonating web of spikes and squiggles.”

In a review of Geoffrey Todd Smith’s most recent show at Western Exhibitions in 2018, artist and critic Andrew Falkowski writes: “The quiet-loud intensity of Smith’s visual stimuli discourages the impulse to scan. Rather, we are invited to slow down, approach the work and investigate from an intimate range.”

Geoffrey Todd Smith’s solo shows include Luis de Jesus Los Angeles; Hyde Park Art Center and the Union League, both in Chicago; Nudashank in Baltimore and he’s been included in group shows at the DePaul Art Museum and Shane Campbell Gallery in Chicago, The Hughes Gallery in Australia, The Green Gallery in Milwaukee, the Illinois State Museum, Charlie James Gallery in Los Angeles, DCKT in NYC, Circuit 12 in Dallas, and Baer Ridgway in San Francisco. His work is in the collections of the Art Institute of Chicago, The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Hallmark Inc. in Kansas City, Fidelity Investments Corporate Art Collection, the Jager Collection in Amsterdam, Soho House Chicago, the South Bend Art Museum in Indiana and Harper College in Illinois and has been written about in [New City](#), *The Seen*, *New American Paintings*, *Bad at Sports*, *art ltd*, *Juxtapoz*, *Chicago Tribune*, and *Chicago Magazine*, who called him one of the “rising stars we should be collecting now”. Smith is represented by Western Exhibitions and he lives and works in Chicago.