



NINO MIER  
GALLERY

**ZAK KITNICK**

*SHAPES*

JANUARY 22-FEBRUARY 27, 2021

NINO MIER GALLERY  
7277 SANTA MONICA BLVD  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90046





**ZAK KITNICK**

***SHAPES***

**January 22-February 27, 2021**

Nino Mier Gallery is pleased to announce its first solo exhibition with Brooklyn based artist, Zak Kitnick. The exhibition, titled ***SHAPES***, will be on view in Los Angeles from January 22nd to February 27th, 2021.

Through the appropriation of familiar patterns and forms, Kitnick navigates the intersection of art, decor, and utility as he examines the mutable boundaries between abstraction and function.

Using commercially available cookie cutter sets traditionally used to create consumable objects, Kitnick maps out a cyclical lifespan in six stages, each delineated by a cast bronze work. Made by pressing the baking tools into wax slabs and adhering the wax shapes perpendicularly to their source before casting in bronze, the abstracted shapes hang outward from the wall with identical counterparts of negative space. While the six works as a whole portray chronological chapters of a lifetime, shapes outlining the lifespans of butterflies serve as vertex points marking both the beginning and the end of the series. The shapes, often ambiguous on their own, come to rely on their surrounding forms to achieve legibility and to establish their part in the overarching cycle. A circle becomes a ball when placed alongside the shapes of a bat and glove in the penultimate stage of the sequence. The allusion to baseball, a game driven by the goal of returning home, serves an additional metaphor for the completion of a cycle and overlaps with the goal of backgammon.

Expanding on gameplay circumscribed to shapes and cyclical motivations, Kitnick assembles geometric patterns sourced from backgammon boards across six transformable aluminum works. Evoking qualities of mechanical reproduction, each piece is nearly identical in appearance with patterns achieved through interchangeable shapes cut from varying metals. The works individually possess a multipurpose functionality underscored by the inclusion of folding legs that allow each piece to hang on the wall or stand freely like a table. Calling into question the differing statuses of artworks and utilitarian objects, the fluctuating nature of these works is furthered as the appropriated patterns establish an easy flexibility between decorative motif and gameboard. Inviting viewers to engage in play, the works lend themselves to the circular pursuits of players and, with each move, acquire a patina reflecting their own lifespan.

In addition to these bronze and aluminum works, Kitnick has created an edition of 12 unique works on paper that contain all the works in the show at 1-to-1 scale.

*Zak Kitnick (b. 1984 in Los Angeles, CA; lives and works in Brooklyn, NY) received his BFA from Bard College in 2006 and his MFA from the Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts at Bard College in 2015) Kitnick's work has been presented in solo exhibitions at C L E A R I N G, New York and Brussels; Ribordy Contemporary, Geneva; White Flag Projects, St. Louis; and Off Vendome, Düsseldorf. His work has been included in group exhibitions at MoMA PS1, New York; the Queens Museum, New York; White Cube, London; and David Zwirner, New York. Kitnick's work is also included in the collections of The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; ICA, Miami; MAMCO, Geneva; and Collezione Giancarlo e Danna Olgiati, Lugano.*



Installation View of Zak Kitnick: *SHAPES* (January 22–February 27, 2021)  
Nino Mier Gallery, Los Angeles, CA



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*The Reincarnation Years In*  
(*Fox Run Mini Flower and Butterfly 11 Piece Cookie Cutter Set*), 2020  
Bronze  
15 x 22 in  
38.1 x 55.9 cm  
(ZKI20.004)













*The Baby Years*

*(Baby Shower Cookie Cutter Set - 5 Piece - Onesie, Bib, Rattle, Bottle, Baby Carriage - Anne Clark Cookie Cutters - US Tin Plated Steel), 2020*

Bronze

15 x 22 in

38.1 x 55.9 cm

(ZKI20.005)











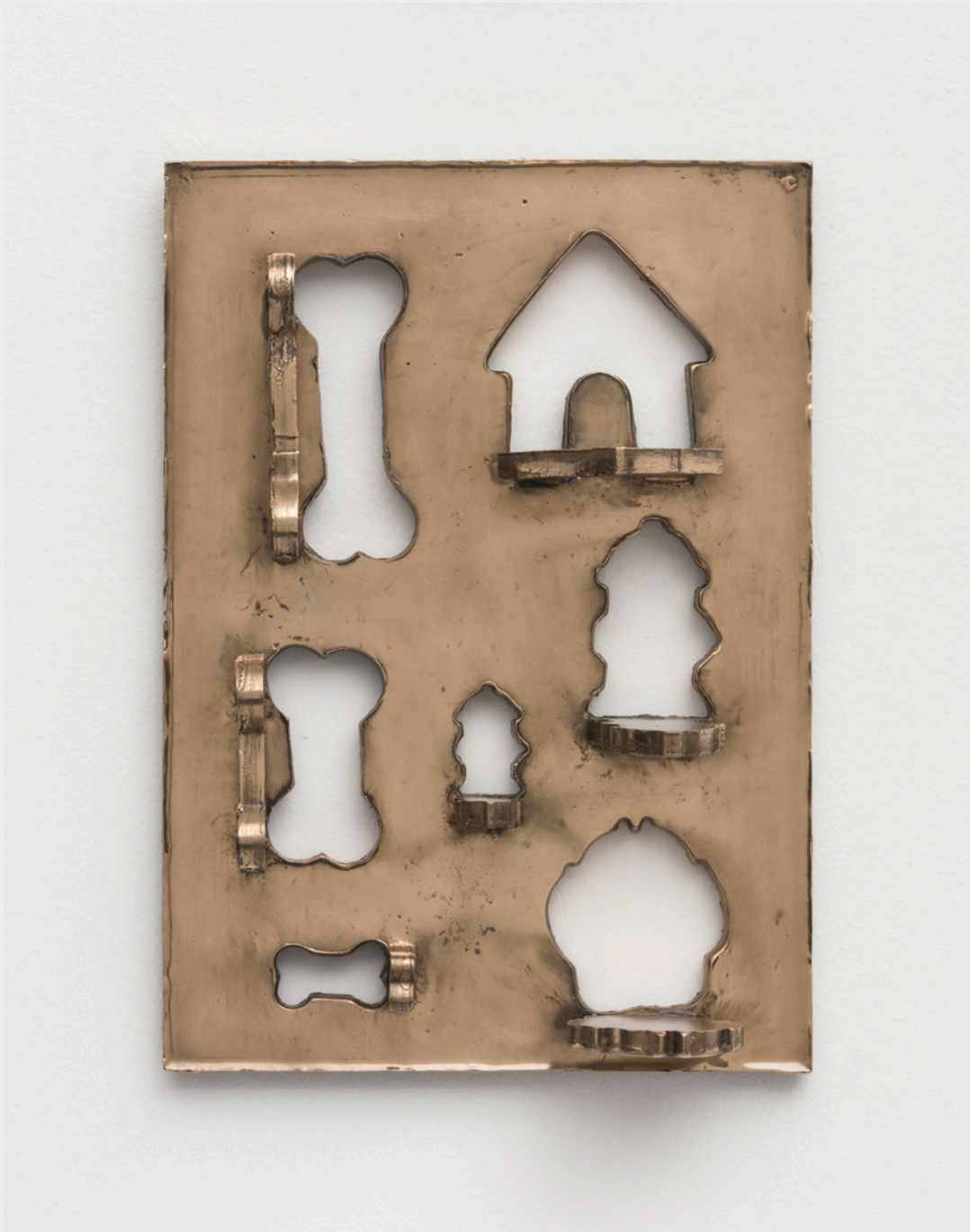
*The Productive Years*  
(Construction Tools Cookie Cutter Set - 4 Piece - Saw, Pliers, Wrench, Hammer - Ann Clark - Tin Plated Steel), 2020  
Bronze  
10 x 14 in  
25.4 x 35.6 cm  
(ZK120.006)











*The Dog Years*  
(*R & M Industries 1947 Dog Bone Cookie Cutters, Set of 7*), 2020  
Bronze  
10 x 14 in  
25.4 x 35.6 cm  
(ZKI20.007)











*The Rounding Home Years*  
(Baseball Cookie Cutter Set - 6 Piece - Bat, Ball, Glove, Jersey, Cap, Shoe - Ann Clark - Tin Plated Steel), 2020  
Bronze  
15 x 22 in  
38.1 x 55.9 cm  
(ZKI20.008)













*The Reincarnation Years Out*  
(*Fox Run Mini Flower and Butterfly 11 Piece Cookie Cutter Set*), 2020  
Bronze  
15 x 22 in  
38.1 x 55.9 cm  
(ZKI20.009)











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*24 Month Calendar 1 (Finished Stainless)*, 2020

Aluminum, stainless steel, and hardware with aluminum and brass checkers

54 x 36 x 2 1/4 in

137.2 x 91.4 x 5.7 cm

(ZKI20.010)













*24 Month Calendar 2 (Mill Brass)*, 2020

Aluminum, brass, and hardware with aluminum and brass checkers

54 x 36 x 2 1/4 in

137.2 x 91.4 x 5.7 cm

(ZKI20.011)















*24 Month Calendar 3 (Mill Stainless)*, 2020

Aluminum, stainless steel, and hardware with aluminum and brass  
checkers

54 x 36 x 2 1/4 in

137.2 x 91.4 x 5.7 cm

(ZKI20.012)













*24 Month Calendar 4 (Mill Steel)*, 2020

Aluminum, mild steel, and hardware with aluminum and brass checkers

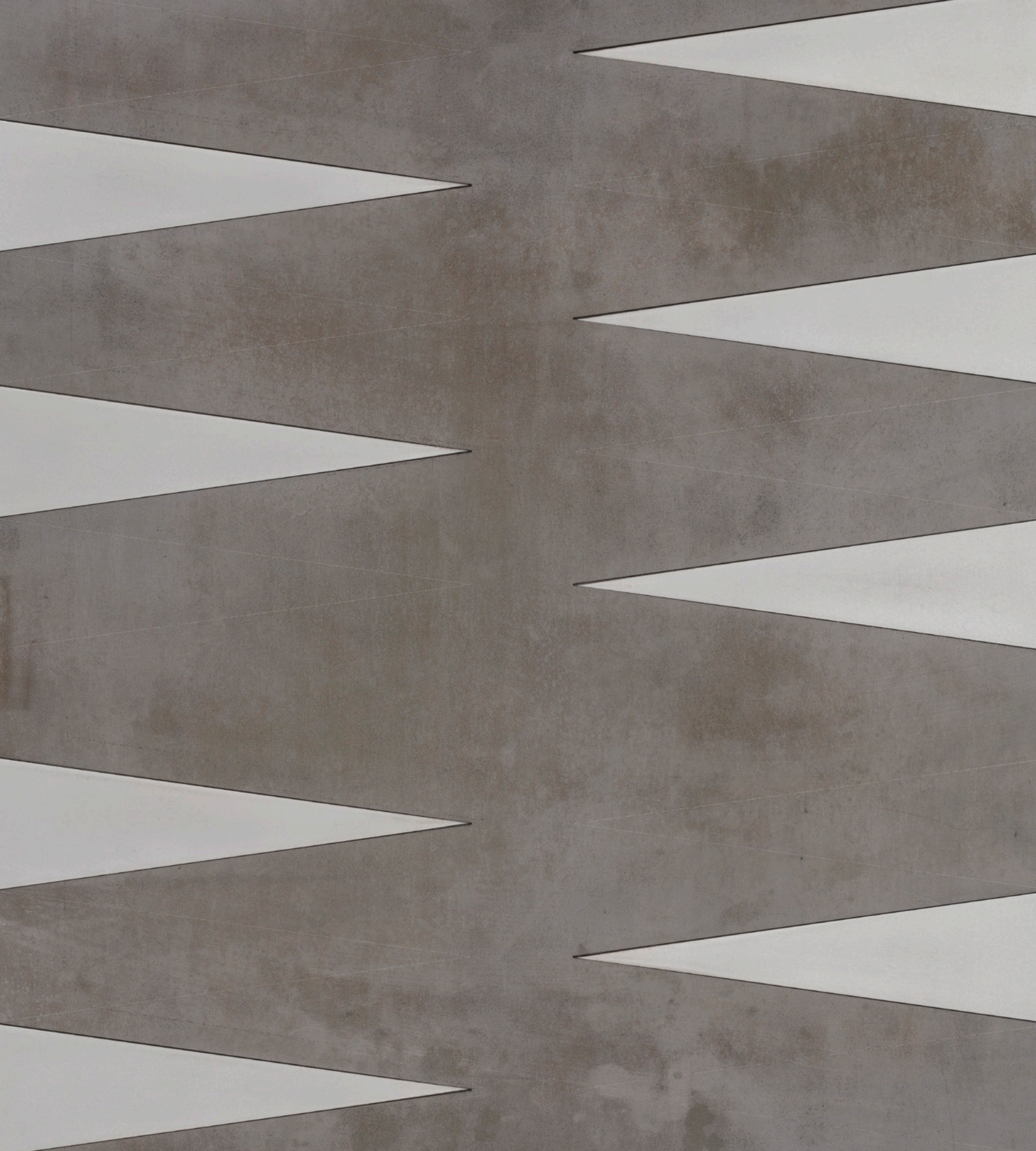
54 x 36 x 2 1/4 in

137.2 x 91.4 x 5.7 cm

(ZKI20.013)











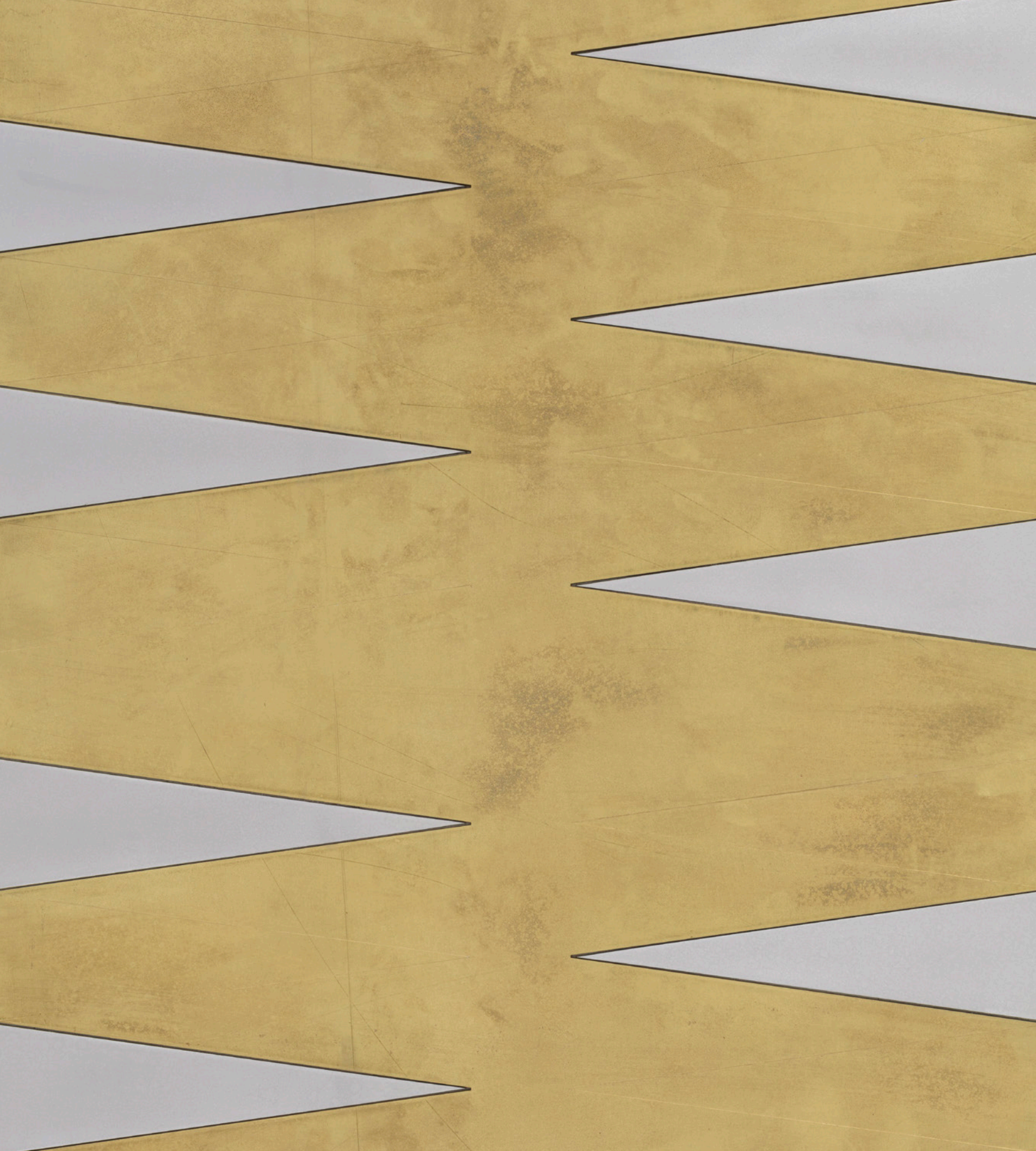




*24 Month Calendar 5 (Finished Brass)*, 2020  
Aluminum, brass, and hardware with aluminum and brass checkers  
54 x 36 x 2 1/4 in  
137.2 x 91.4 x 5.7 cm  
(ZKI20.014)



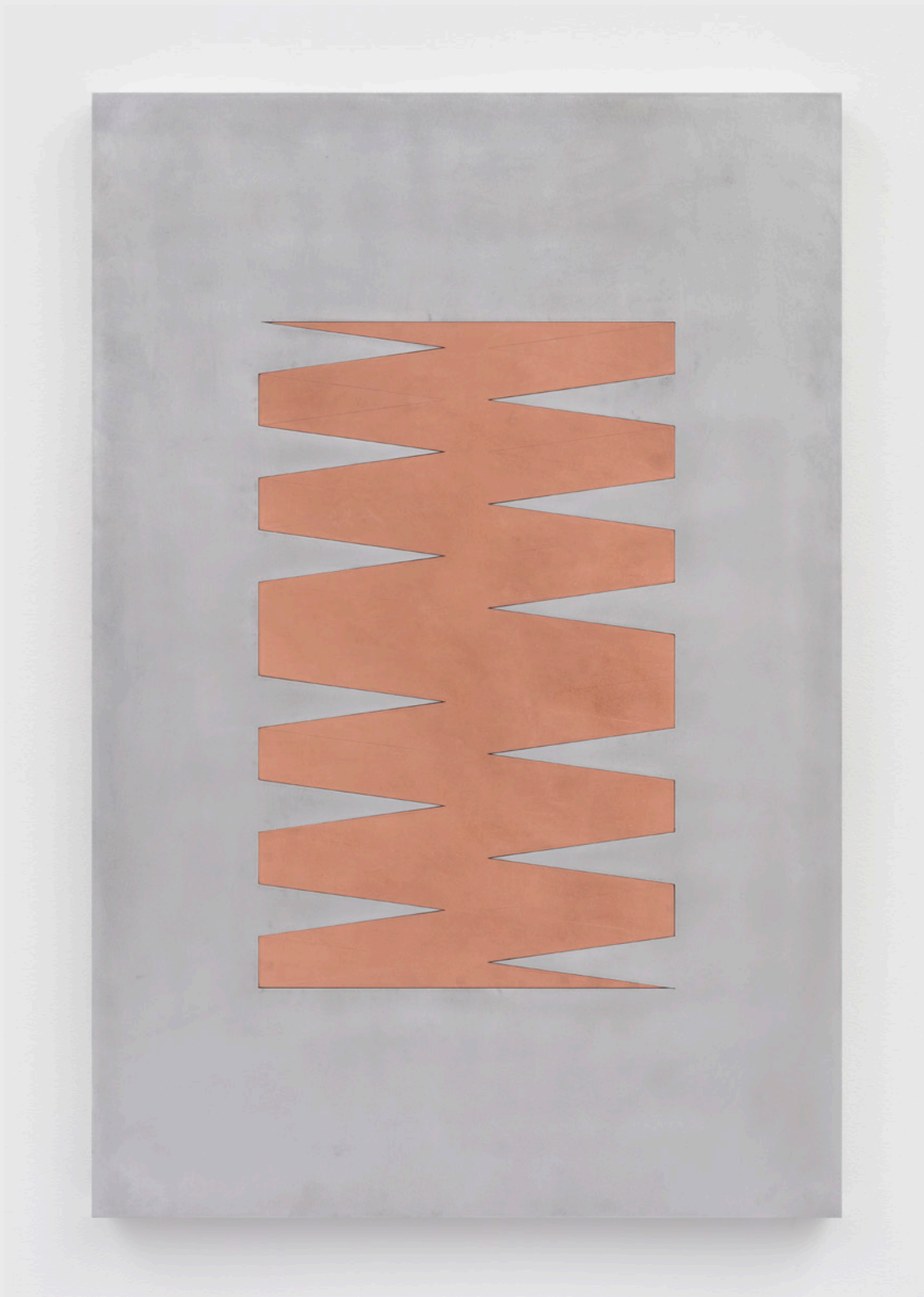












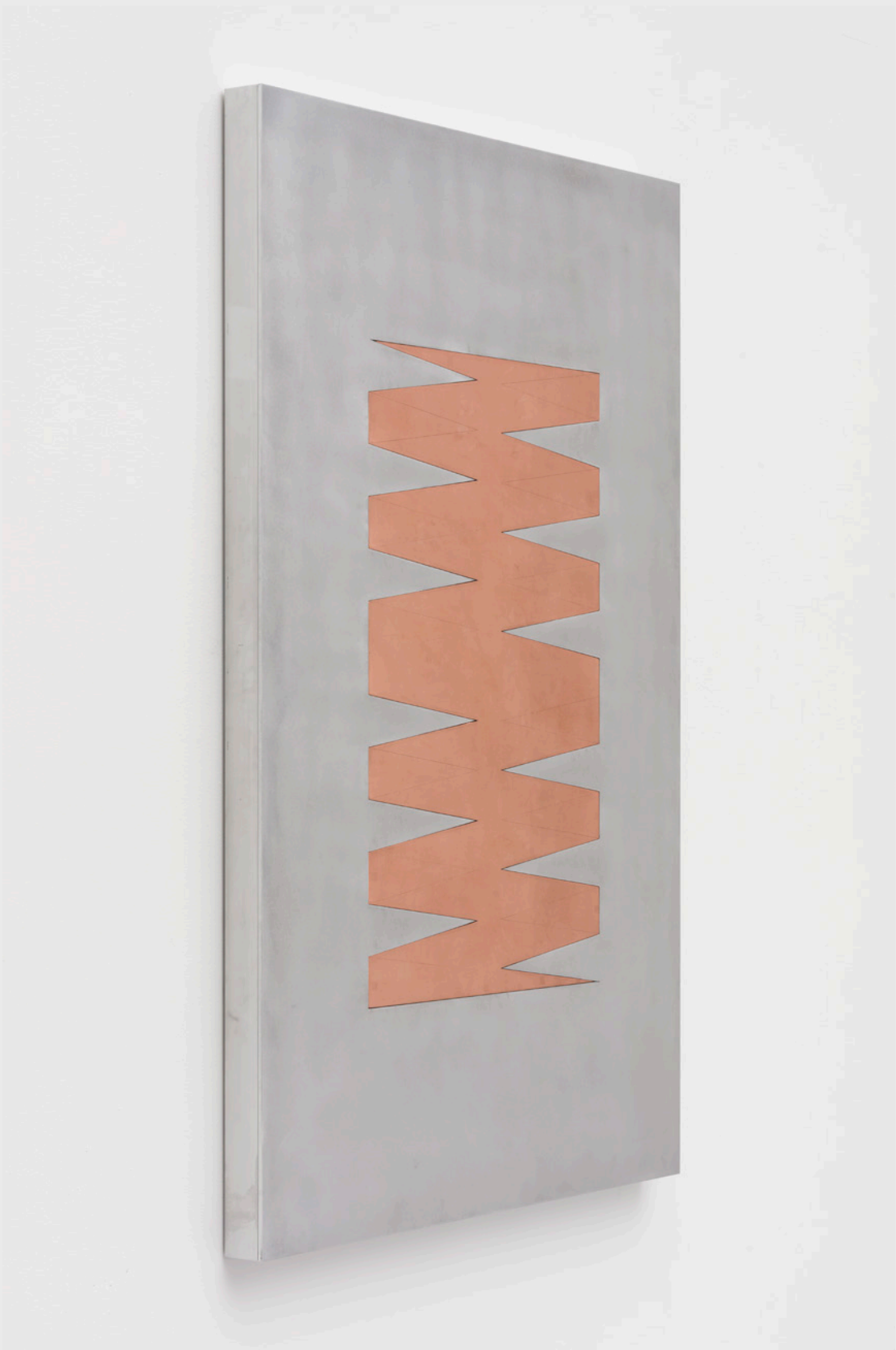
*24 Month Calendar 6 (Mill Copper)*, 2020

Aluminum, copper, and hardware with aluminum and brass checkers

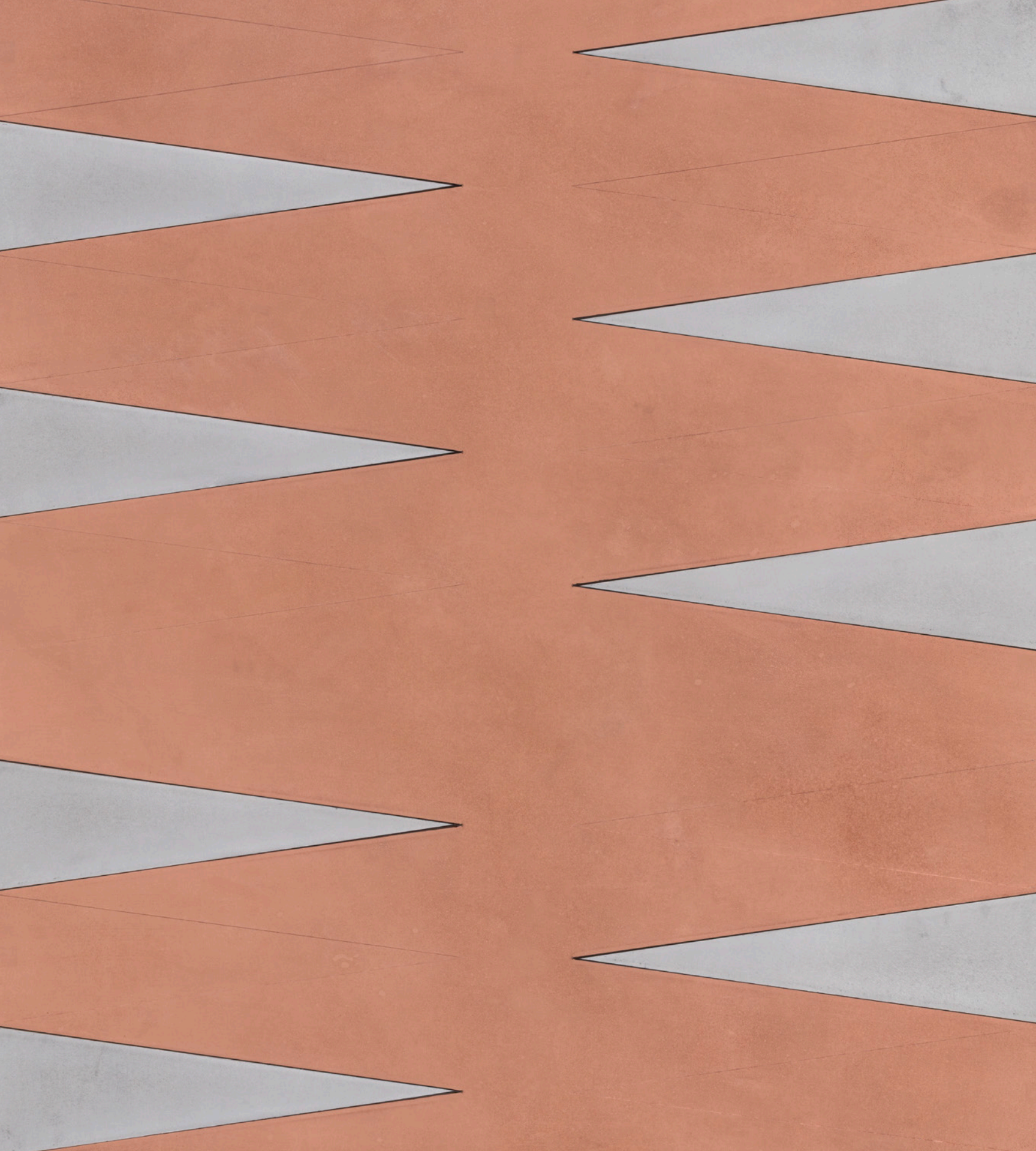
54 x 36 x 2 1/4 in

137.2 x 91.4 x 5.7 cm

(ZK120.015)





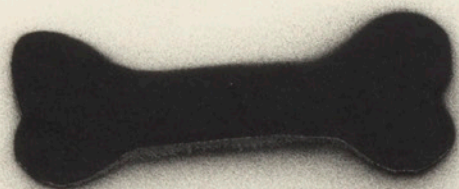
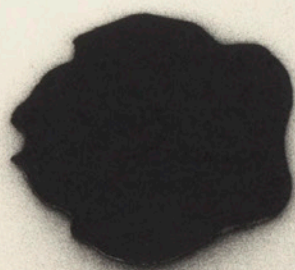
















*SHAPES 4 (emerald green)*, 2020  
Spray paint on heavy duty paper  
54 x 36 in  
21.26 x 14.17 cm  
(ZKI21.002)







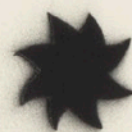
*SHAPES 1 (rich plum)*, 2020  
Spray paint on heavy duty paper  
54 x 36 in  
21.26 x 14.17 cm  
(ZKI21.003)



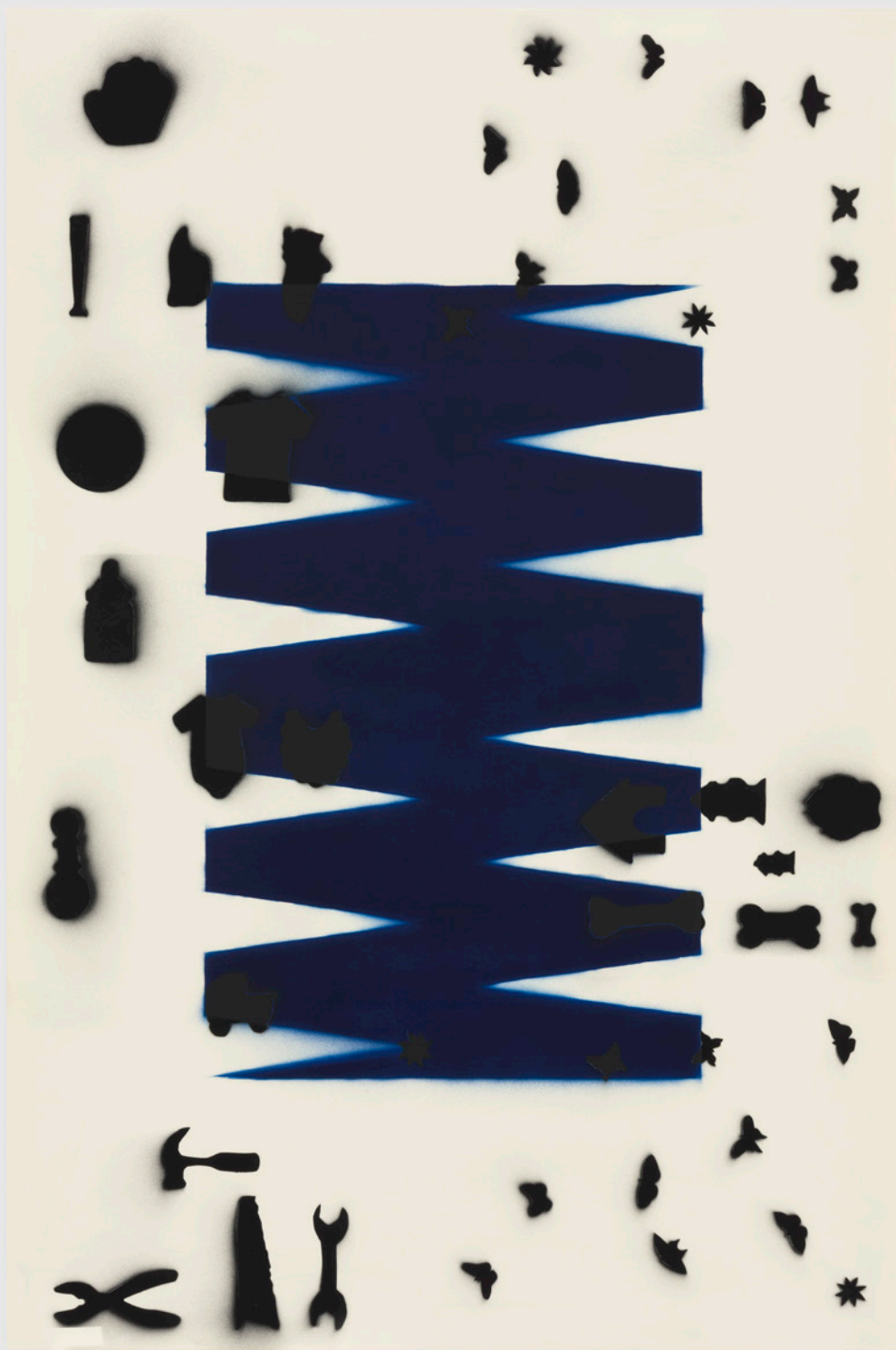




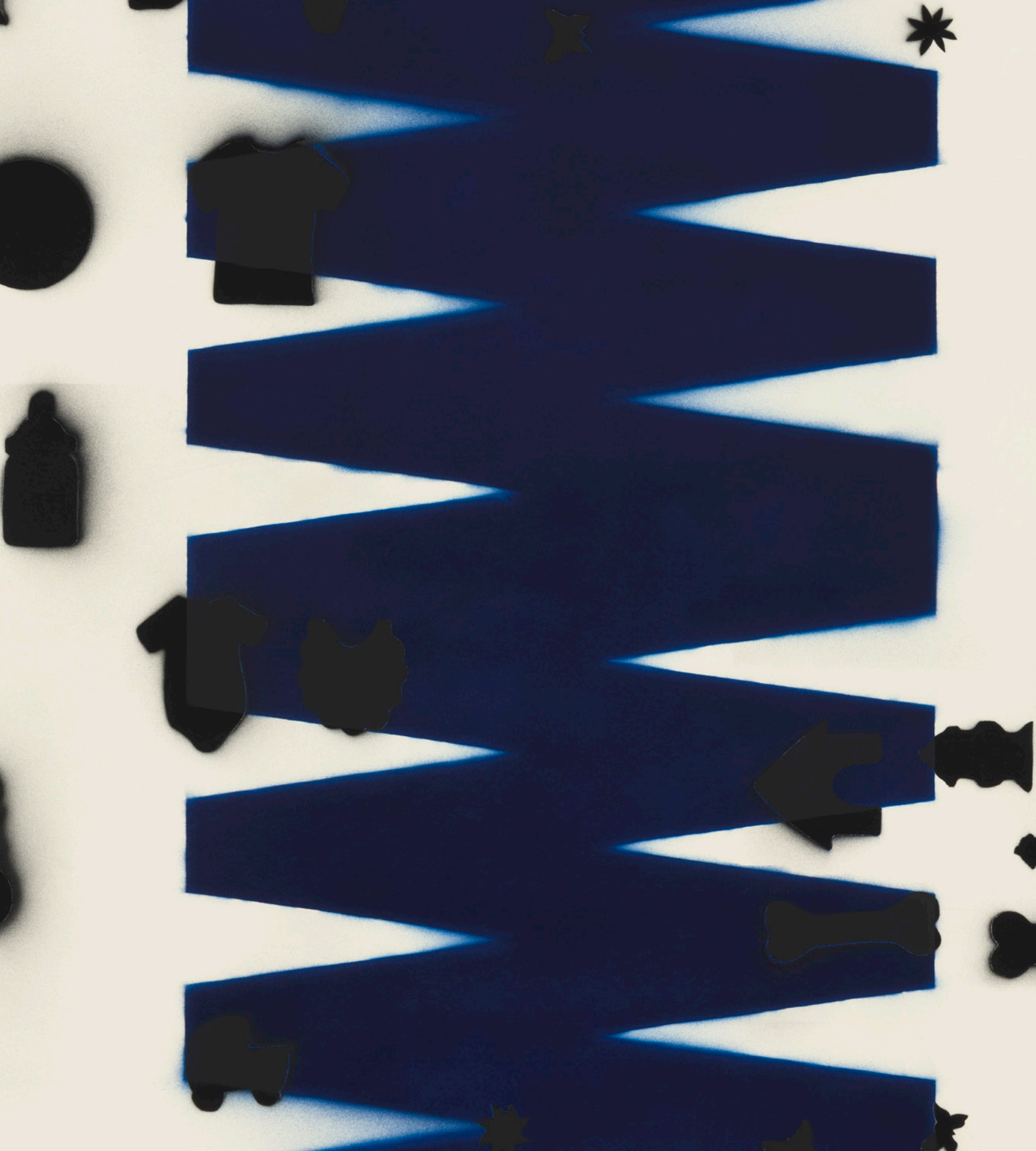
*SHAPES 3 (banner red)*, 2020  
Spray paint on heavy duty paper  
54 x 36 in  
21.26 x 14.17 cm  
(ZK121.004)







*SHAPES 2 (regal blue)*, 2020  
Spray paint on heavy duty paper  
54 x 36 in  
21.26 x 14.17 cm  
(ZKI21.005)







*SHAPES 6 (true blue)*, 2020  
Spray paint on heavy duty paper  
54 x 36 in  
21.26 x 14.17 cm  
(ZKI21.006)







*SHAPES 7 (sun yellow)*, 2020  
Spray paint on heavy duty paper  
54 x 36 in  
21.26 x 14.17 cm  
(ZK121.007)

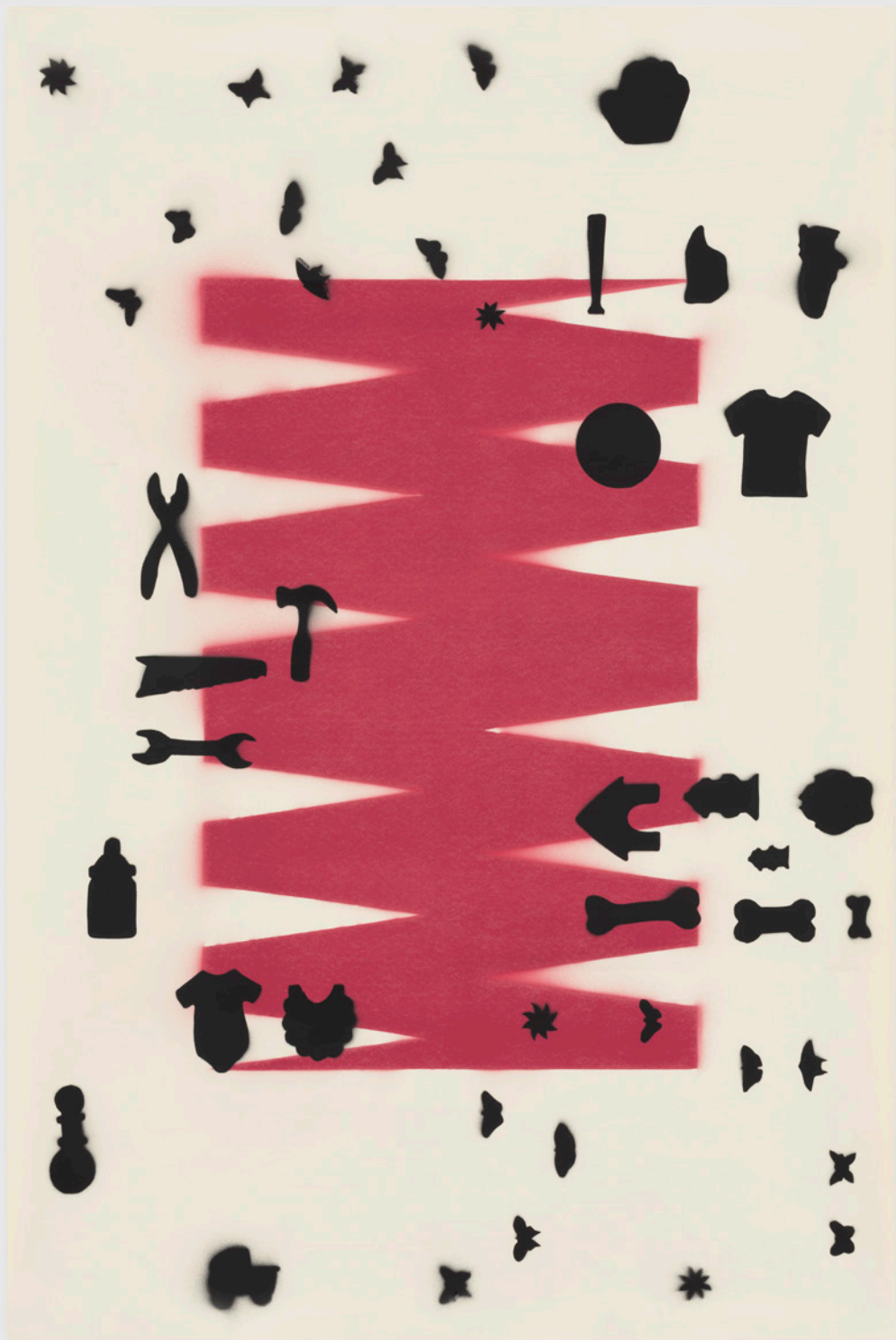












*SHAPES 8 (watermelon)*, 2020  
Spray paint on heavy duty paper  
54 x 36 in  
21.26 x 14.17 cm  
(ZK121.009)







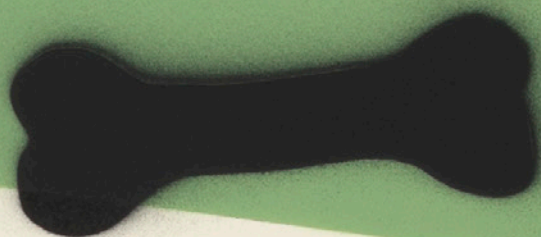
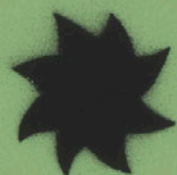
*SHAPES 10 (periwinkle)*, 2020  
Spray paint on heavy duty paper  
54 x 36 in  
21.26 x 14.17 cm  
(ZKI21.010)







*SHAPES 11 (pistachio)*, 2020  
Spray paint on heavy duty paper  
54 x 36 in  
21.26 x 14.17 cm  
(ZKI21.011)















## ZAK KITNICK

Born in 1984 in Los Angeles, CA, US  
Lives and works in Brooklyn, NY, US

## EDUCATION

2015 MFA Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts, Annandale-On-Hudson, New York, NY, US

2006 BA Bard College, Annandale-On-Hudson, New York, NY, US

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021 *SHAPES*, Nino Mier Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, US

2019 *12 GRAPES*, C L E A R I N G, Brussels, BE

2018 *HEA: Pattern Fetish*, with Jacques Villon, Ramiken, New York, NY, US  
*Doubles*, C L E A R I N G Upper East Side, New York, NY, US  
*Craftsman by Sears at Kmart*, Ribordy Contemporary, Genève, CH  
*FRONT TRIENNIAL*, with Kyle Thurman, Cleveland, OH, US

2017 *Zak Kitnick*, The Suburban, Milwaukee Riverwest, WI, US  
C L E A R I N G solo booth at LISTE, Basel, CH  
*Zak Kitnick and Kyle Thurman*, Parapet Real Humans, St. Louis, MO, USA

2016 *C & D*, C L E A R I N G Brooklyn, New York, NY, US  
*History of Nothing*, with Eduardo Paolozzi, White Cube Gallery, London, UK  
*Lime in a Coconut*, curated by Piper Marshall, Mary Boone Gallery, New York, NY, US

2015 *Anne-Sophie Berger – Zak Kitnick*, ANDNOW, Dallas, TX, US  
*Ken Burns Effect*, Ribordy Contemporary, Genève, CH  
*People, Process, Product*, Rowhouse Project, Baltimore, MD, US  
*Peace*, C L E A R I N G, Brussels, BE  
*Zak Kitnick*, White Flag Library, White Flag Projects, St. Louis, MO, US

2013 *Zak Kitnick*, Off Vendome, Düsseldorf, DE  
*Zak Kitnick*, Ribordy Contemporary, Geneva, CH  
*Zak Kitnick*, Clifton Benevento, New York, NY, US

2012 *Three Men and a Maybe*, with Polly Apfelbaum, D'Amelio Gallery, New York, NY, US



- 2011 *Zak Kitnick*, VAVA, Milan, IT  
*Zak Kitnick and Valerie Snobeck*, curated by Maxwell Graham, Shane Campbell, Chicago, IL, US  
*Zak Kitnick*, Clifton Benevento, New York, NY, US
- 2010 *Zak Kitnick*, Landings Project Space, Vestfossen, NO  
*Zak Kitnick STAMPS and Erik Lindman PHOTOGRAPHS*, West Street Gallery, New York, NY, US  
*Zak Kitnick / Fredrik Værsløv*, curated by Geir Haraldseth, Johan Berggren Gallery, Malmö, SE
- 2009 *Murphy Beds*, Southfirst Gallery, Brooklyn, NY, US
- 2008 *Ode to Joy*, Cleopatra's, Brooklyn, NY, US

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 *This is a Pipe: Realism and the Found Object in Contemporary Art*,  
Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, IL, US
- 2017 *Tuer la Marionette*, curated by Clément Delépine, CACBM, Paris, FR  
C L E A R I N G booth with Loïc Raguénès at Independent New York
- 2016 *Two-Story*, C L E A R I N G, Brussels, BE  
*Fritto Misto*, C L E A R I N G, New York, NY, US
- 2015 *Cookie Gate*, Ellis King, Dublin, IE  
*The Gentle Way: JUDO*, Clifton Benevento, New York, NY, US  
*The Subjects of the Artist*, Michael Thibault Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, US
- 2014 *173 E 94th St. / Chaussée de Waterloo 550*, Paul Kasmin Gallery, Middlemarch, Brussels, BE  
*To do as one would*, David Zwirner, New York, NY, US  
*Graham Durward, Heather Guertin, Zak Kitnick, Lucien Terras*, New York, NY, US  
*Memory Palaces*, Carlier / Gebauer, Berlin, DE  
*Taster's Choice*, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, New York, NY, US  
*Imperfect Surfaces*, Dieu Donné, New York, NY, US
- 2013 *A Wand Stirs the Juice*, C L E A R I N G, Brussels, BE  
*Garage Show*, JTT / Rachel Uffner, New York, NY, US  
*Correspondences: Ad Reinhardt at 100*, TEMP Art Space, New York, NY, US  
*New York*, Untitled / Zach Feuer, US  
*Group Show*, 247365, Brooklyn, US  
*It-Thou*, Michael Thibault Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, US  
*Snout to Tail, Anna-Sophie Berger, Zak Kitnick, Sean Paul*, curated by Zak Kitnick, JTT,  
New York, NY, US



- 2012 *Steel Life*, curated by Zak Kitnick, Michael Benevento, Los Angeles, CA, US  
*WHY DO BIRDS SUDDENLY APPEAR?*, Volker Bradtke, Düsseldorf, DE  
*Group Show*, West Street Gallery, New York, NY, US  
*Someone Has Stolen Our Tent*, Simon Preston Gallery, New York, NY, US  
*Straight Up*, Family Business, New York, NY, US  
*Ruins in Reverse*, Room East, New York, NY, US
- 2011 *To Follow*, C L E A R I N G, New York, NY, US  
*Heads With Tails*, Harris Lieberman, Brooklyn, NY, US  
*Productive Steps*, Mount Tremper Arts, Mount Tremper, NY, US  
*Kenji Fujita, Zak Kitnick, Sam Pulitzer: Live at the Acropolis*, The Company, Los Angeles, CA, USA  
*Waiting Ground*, curated by Heather Rowe and Tommy White, Kate Werble, New York, NY, US  
*Tax Day News & Smoke*, The Emily Harvey Foundation, New York, NY, US  
*Not the Way You Remembered*, Queens Museum of Art, New York, NY, US  
*Proposal for a Floor*, curated by Alex Gartenfeld, 1500 Broadway, New York, NY, US  
*The Balloon*, Southfirst Gallery, Brooklyn, NY, US  
*Offset Summary*, Rachel Uffner, New York, NY, US
- 2010 *Zak Kitnick STAMPS and Erik Lindman PHOTOGRAPHS*, West Street Gallery, New York, NY, US  
*Offset Summary*, Rachel Uffner Gallery, New York, NY, US  
*The Every Other Day*, Ideo Box, Miami, FL, US  
*Last Minute Intervention*, Shoshana Wayne 2, Los Angeles, CA, US  
*One Man's Mess Is Another Man's Masterpiece*, Bugada & Cargnel, Paris, FR  
*Zak Kitnick / Fredrik Værsløv*, curated by Geir Haraldseth, Johan Berggren Gallery, Malmö, SE  
*Visionairies*, Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum, Santa Barbara, CA, US
- 2009 *EAF 09*, Socrates Sculpture Park, Queens, NY, US  
*La Panique du Noyau*, l'Ecole Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Brest, Brest, FR  
*Between Spaces*, P.S. 1, Queens, NY, US  
*Trade Secrets*, John Connelly Presents, New York, NY, US  
*Good Vibrations*, Carol Bove, Brooklyn, NY, US  
*Speculative Frontier*, Light Industry, Brooklyn, NY, US  
*If The Dogs Are Barking*, Artists Space, New York, NY, US  
*Changing Light Bulbs In Thin Air*, Hessel Museum, Annandale, NY, US  
*It Ain't Fair*, OHWOW, Miami, FL, US  
*Showroom*, Johan Berggren Gallery, Malmö, SE
- 2008 *Salad Days*, Artists Space, New York, NY, US  
*Alone/ Together*, Talman+Monroe, Brooklyn, NY, US  
*I Want a Little Sugar in My Bowl*, Asia Song Society, New York, NY, US  
*O Natural*, 400 Morgan, Brooklyn, NY, US
- 2007 *Ask*, ASK, Kingston, USA  
*Coprolalia*, UBS, Bard Exhibition Center, Red Hook, NY, US



## **PUBLIC COLLECTIONS**

The Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY, US

Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, FL, US

MAMCO, Geneva, CH

Collezione Giancarlo e Danna Olgiati, Lugano, CH

## **TEACHING**

2018 Visiting Artist, Barnard, New York, NY, US

2017 Visiting Artist, MIAD, Milwaukee, WI, US

2011 Visiting Artist, SAIC, Chicago, IL, US

2010 Visting Artist, Otis, Los Angeles, CA, US



