

Jim Bachor

Artist's Statement

Trying to leave your mark in this world fascinates me. Ancient history fascinates me.

Volunteering to work on an archaeological dig in Pompeii helped merge these two interests in to my art. In the ancient world, mosaics were used to capture images of everyday life. These colorful pieces of stone or glass set in mortar were the photographs of empires long past. Marble and glass do not fade. Mortar is mortar. An ancient mosaic looks exactly as intended by the artist who produced it over two millennia ago. What else can claim that kind of staying power? I find this idea simply amazing.

Using the same materials, tools and methods of the archaic craftsmen, I create mosaics that speak of modern things in an ancient voice. My work locks into mortar unexpected concepts drawn from the present. By harnessing and exploiting the limitations of this indestructible technique, my work surprises the viewer while challenging long-held notions of what a mosaic should be. Like low-tech pixels, hundreds if not thousands of tiny, hand-cut pieces of Italian glass and marble comprise my work.

This work is my mark

Jim Bachor Resume

Education

BFA Graphic Design, Center for Creative Studies, Detroit 1987

Solo Exhibitions

2017

"Swedish Snus Store" solo show, Chicago IL

2014

"Jentaculum" solo show, Packer Schopf Gallery, Chicago IL

Society of America Mosaic Artists" juried show, Houston TX

Group Exhibitions

2013

"Transitions" juried show, Tacoma WA

"Society of America Mosaic Artists" juried show, Tacoma WA

2011

"Society of America Mosaic Artists" juried show, Chicago IL

2010

"Art Loop Open", juried show, Merchandise Mart, Chicago IL

2006

"4 Mosaicists" group show, Uncommon Ground, Chicago IL

"Society of America Mosaic Artists" juried show, Chicago IL

2005

"Around the Coyote", juried show, Chicago IL

"Society of America Mosaic Artists" juried show, Chicago IL

2004

"Around the Coyote" juried show, Chicago IL

"Midwest Mosaic Invitational" juried show, TZ Gallery, Chicago IL

"Beginner's Luck", group show, Lucky Gallery, Brooklyn NY

2003

"Around the Coyote" juried show, Chicago IL

"Politics as Usual", group show, Aron Packer Gallery, Chicago IL

2002

"Around the Coyote" juried show, Chicago IL

Awards

2016

Krider Prize for Creativity, UCDA Foundation, San Antonio TX

2013

"Juror's Choice" artist, Society of Mosaic Artists, Tacoma WA

2006

"Juror's Choice" artist, Society of Mosaic Artists, Chicago IL

2005

"Juror's Choice" artist, Society of Mosaic Artists, Washington DC

2003

"Curator's Choice" artist, "Around the Coyote," Chicago IL

2002

"Curator's Choice" artist, "Around the Coyote," Chicago IL

Public Commissions

2017

"Untitled", 8th Ward, City of Chicago, Chicago IL

2016

"Librarian's Garden", Chicago IL

2015

"Savage Smyth", Event space, Chicago IL

2014

"RUN CHI", Niketown, Nike, Chicago IL

"thrive", Thorndale Red Line Station, Chicago Transit Authority, Chicago IL

"Elevate", Parkland Community College, Champaign IN 2014

2013

"A to B", Downtown Transit Center, Bloomington IN (finalist)

"The path starts...", Coonley Elementary School, Chicago IL (finalist)

Press

TV

"CBS Sunday Morning" documents the latest pothole installation (2/17)

MANCOW morning show appearance (7/25/14) ASSOCIATED PRESS documents one of my installations in downtown

Chicago (6/12/14) PBS show "In the Loop" documents the latest pothole installation (5/1/14)

FOX NEWS feature on installing pothole artwork during four live remotes (1/17/14)

"BOSS" television show starring Kesley Grammer featured three pieces in 3rd episode (2012)

Web & Print

CHICAGO MAGAZINE cover of the March 2017 issue (3/17) NEWCITY included in the list "Design 50: Who Shapes

Chicago 2016" (3/15/16) CHICAGO TRIBUNE feature on my pothole artwork and Kickstarter campaign (3/1/16)

TIMEOUT CHICAGO included in the "Chicago's greatest public art" list (1/20/16)

CHICAGOIST DAILY included in "The 10 Best Street And Public Art Pieces In Chicago" list (4/16/15)

DNA INFO CHICAGO article about my Kickstarter Pothole Project campaign (1/28/15) ABC NEWS slide show featuring

my pothole installations (1/5/15) CHICAGO READER cover featuring "Super Realistic Cheeto" (12/18/14) DAILY MAIL

UK feature on my Flower Pot Hole public artworks (11/7/14) CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR story (10/31/14)

DAILY MAIL UK feature on my pothole public artworks (6/12/14)

CBS CHICAGO feature on my pothole public artworks (5/27/14) GIZMODO feature on my pothole public artworks

(5/26/14) FAST COMPANY feature on my pothole public artworks (5/22/14) HYPERALLERGIC feature on my pothole

public artworks (5/14/14)

CHICAGO READER feature on my pothole public artworks (5/3/14)

CHICAGO TRIBUNE feature on my pothole public artworks (3/31/14)

FOX NEWS feature on installing pothole artwork during four live remotes (1/17/14) SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

article (12/27/13) about "Super Fresh" gallery where my work is shown CHICAGO SUNTIMES article about landing the

Chicago Transit Authority commission

CHICAGO TRIBUNE article about landing the Chicago Transit Authority commission

MOSAIC ART NOW profile April 2012

Print

HEY #24 Feature article in this French modern art and pop culture magazine December 2015 issue

YEN Feature article in this Australian lifestyle magazine December 2015 issue THE READER CHICAGO - "Super Realistic

Cheeto" profiled on the cover December 2014 issue MOSAIQUE Magazine - Profiled in the French magazine's January

2014 issue

AMERICAN CRAFT Magazine - Profiled in the December/January 2014 issue

CHICAGO TRIBUNE's Home magazine - "Skull" piece featured in the Fall 2012 issue