

Industry of the Ordinary

Adam Brooks, born 1959, New York, New York
Mathew Wilson, born 1967, Reading, England

Live and work in Chicago, USA

Selected Exhibitions and Performances:

Ongoing

<http://www.industryoftheordinary.com>

2016

Whiskey and Kisses, Denver Art Museum, Denver, Colorado (solo performance)

Industry of the Ordinary, Antena, Chicago, Illinois (solo show)

The Greenlands Project, Birmingham, England (residency and permanent installation)

Prayer (for Bentonville), Inverse Performance Festival, Northwest Arkansas

Industry of the Ordinary, Chamber, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (solo show)

Synapse, Inner Gallery, Chicago, Illinois

2015

Jesus by the Lake, Chicago, Illinois (solo project, ongoing) www.jesusbythelake.com

Water in Art, Water After Borders, UIC Institute for the Humanities, Chicago, Illinois

http://www.waterafterborders.org/?page_id=1127

Relative, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, Illinois (solo performance)

2014

Venetiaanse Gaanderijen, Ostend Pavilion, Ostend, Belgium (project identity and principal image)

<http://www.oostende.be/nieuwsdetail.aspx?id=9474#>

RISK: Empathy, Art and Social Practice, Glass Curtain Gallery, Chicago, Illinois

<http://students.colum.edu/deps/glass-curtain-gallery/exhibitions/risk-empathy-art-and-social-practice/index.php>

[RISK catalogue available here](#)

Tragedy, Missoula and Bozeman, Montana (solo performances)

Ordinary Projects, Chicago, Illinois www.ordinaryprojects.org

2013

Goods and Services (reprise), Exposition Chicago opening night performance, Chicago, Illinois

Emerging Tactics, RECESS, Portland, Oregon

Good Service, Studio Gang, Chicago, Illinois

Goods and Services, Council on Foundations annual meeting, Chicago, Illinois

Guns and Butter, UIS Gallery, Springfield, Illinois (solo show)

Rube Goldberg's Ghost, Glass Curtain Gallery, Chicago, Illinois

2012

Industry of the Ordinary: Sic Transit Gloria Mundi, mid-career survey, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, Illinois (solo exhibition/residency/series of performances and collaborations, runs until February 2013) <http://www.industryoftheordinary.com/html/culturalcenter.html>

Memory Over Forgetting, Exposition Chicago opening night performance, Chicago, Illinois

Rapid Pulse International Performance Festival, Defibrillator Gallery, Chicago, Illinois (solo performance)

Sight and Sound, Billboard Art Project, Richmond, Virginia

Foreign Affairs, Expo Chicago 2012, Chicago, Illinois (solo performance)

Performance Series, British Consul General's residence, Chicago, Illinois
Starving Artist, Chicago Artist Coalition, Chicago, Illinois
Butter Raiser, Maria's, Chicago, Illinois
Evil is Interesting, Antena, Chicago, Illinois
Arts and Crafts, Public House, Chicago, Illinois

2011

Industry of the Ordinary, Watkins College of Art, Nashville, Tennessee (solo show)
Wicker Park/Bucktown Mural Project, Chicago, Illinois (long-term installation)
Whiskey and Kisses/Go-Betweens, MDW Fair, Chicago, Illinois
Visual Phrasing, College of St. Elizabeth, Morristown, New Jersey
Mash Flob, performance series at Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Illinois
The Search, Andrew Rafacz Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
Hang In There, Co-Prosperity Sphere, Chicago, Illinois
Performance Series, British Consul General's residence, Chicago, Illinois
Work With Me, A+D Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
Out of Site, public performance series organized by Defibrillator Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
Chain Letter, Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Los Angeles, California

2010

History as Idea, Nebraska State Historical Society, 1% for Art Commission, Lincoln, Nebraska
(permanent installation)
Don't Piss on Me and Tell Me It's Raining, apexart, New York, New York
ORD[i]NANCE, Urban Environment Office, London, England
Spark, Defibrillator, Chicago
ACRE: Country in the City, Heaven Gallery, Chicago
X-treme Studio, A+D Gallery, Chicago
Artists in residence, Anchor Graphics, Chicago, Illinois
Visiting artists, ACRE, Steuben, Wisconsin

2009

Modern Wing Opening, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois (solo performance)
Super Market, Northeastern Illinois University Gallery, Chicago (solo show)
ArtChicago, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
Dis/Believer: Reconciling Science and Religion in Contemporary Art, Glass Curtain Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
Site/Unseen, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, Illinois (rejected)
39 Verbs, Packer Schopf Gallery, Chicago, Illinois (organized)
Supermarketing, multi-site project in the United States, England, France, Italy and India

2008

12x12, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (solo show)
Allan Kaprow—Art as Life, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles
Journeys, Chicago Public Library Public Art Commission, Chicago, Illinois (permanent installation)
Celebrity and The Peculiar, Gahlberg Gallery, College of DuPage, Illinois (solo show) (catalog)
Reflections, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
Public Address, Phaiz, Chicago, Illinois
The Drawing Show, Beverly Art Center, Chicago, Illinois
Off the Beaten Road, A+D Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
Five Years on the Run, Orleans St. Gallery, St. Charles, Illinois
ArtXposium, West Chicago, Illinois

2007

Mapping the Self, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago
Imaginary Time, Waterloo Center for the Arts, Waterloo, Iowa (solo performance)
Approach (curated by Research and Development), Ai Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
D.I.Y., A+D Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
ArtChicago, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
The Art World is Flat, Pritzker Pavilion, Chicago, Illinois
College Art Association, New York, New York (solo performance)
The Nature of Art, Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Michigan City, Indiana
God's Punk, Hyde Park Arts Center, Chicago, Illinois

2006

Ruby Satellite, UCR/California Museum of Photography, Riverside, California
Smoke and Mirrors: Photography and Performance, Ohio University Art Gallery, Athens, Ohio
Propagation, Polvo, Chicago, Illinois
Takeover, Hyde Park Arts Center, Chicago, Illinois
Site/Unseen, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, Illinois
Intimate and Epic, Lurie Garden, Millennium Park, Chicago, Illinois
Basel Miami, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Miami, Florida
Fancy Dress Ball, Links Hall Exhibition Space, Chicago, Illinois (solo performance)
Faith–Industry of the Ordinary, University of St. Francis, Joliet, Illinois
Society For Contemporary Art Auction, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Ballroom Blitz, James Hotel, Chicago, Illinois
@rtNight, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, Illinois

2005

Version>05, Chicago, Illinois
Nova Young Art Fair, Chicago, Illinois (solo performance)
PAC Edge Performance Festival, Performing Arts Chicago, Athenaeum Theater, Chicago, Illinois
Early Adopters, Three Arts Club, Chicago, Illinois
Book Launch, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, Illinois

2004

A More Perfect Union, The Renaissance Society, Chicago, Illinois
Fine Words Butter No Cabbage, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, Illinois
Outer Ear Festival of Sound, Experimental Sound Studio, Chicago, Illinois
PAC Edge Performance Festival, Performing Arts Chicago, Athenaeum Theater, Chicago, Illinois
Midwestern Photographer's Project, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, Illinois
Faith, Sonic Performance, WLWU radio station
Open Studio, Chicago Public Art Program, Chicago, Illinois
Image/Action, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, Illinois

2003

Dropping 163 lbs:Daley Plaza, Chicago, Illinois

2002

32 minutes on La Salle, Chicago (MW solo)

2001

Contextual, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, Illinois (catalog) (AB)

2000

Salina Art Center, Salina, Kansas (catalog) (AB solo)
The Body in Photographs: A Recent Gift from Eileen and Peter Norton, Bard College, Center for Curatorial Studies Museum, New York (AB)

1999

Men of the World in Seattle, Center for Contemporary Art, Seattle, Washington (MW solo)

1998

DeNaturalized, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Illinois (AB solo)

1997

Aeroplanes, Vilnius University, Lithuania (MW solo)

1996

Art in Chicago Since 1945, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, (catalog) (MW)

Degrees of Morality, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, Illinois (AB solo)

1994

Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, Illinois (AB solo)

Daley Plaza Event for Earth Day, Chicago, Illinois (MW solo)

Freedom Wall Project, Chicago, Illinois (catalog) (AB permanent public installation)

Muranushi Lederman Productions, New York, New York (AB solo)

1991

Men Exchanging Fluids, Cameraworks Gallery, San Francisco, October (MW solo)

Abel Joseph Gallery, Chicago, Illinois (AB solo)

Selected Bibliography (see also [IOTO Press](#) for complete bibliography):

Emergency Index: An Annual Document of Performance Practice, volume 3, documenting 2013, published Jan. 2015, pages 24-25

NewCity's Top Five of Everything: 2014, Top Five New Gallery Projects—Ordinary Projects, 24 December 2014

<http://art.newcity.com/2014/12/24/newcitys-top-5-of-everything-2014-art/>

Three Awesome, Incredibly Odd Art Projects in Chicago, Jason Founberg, 13 October 2014

<http://www.chicagomag.com/arts-culture/October-2014/Three-odd-awesome-art-objects-to-see/>

NewCity's Art 50: The Top Artists in Chicago, 18 September 2014

<http://art.newcity.com/2014/09/18/art-50-2014-chicagos-artists-artists/>

<http://art.newcity.com/2014/09/18/art-50-2014-chicagos-artists-artists/5/>

Bad at Sports Top Weekend Picks, 4 September 2014, Stephanie Burke

<http://badatsports.com/2014/top-7-weekend-picks-95-97/>

Portrait of the Artist: Macon Reed at Ordinary Projects, Matt Morris, 16 June 2014

<http://art.newcity.com/2014/06/16/portrait-of-the-artist-macon-reed/>

Bad at Sports Top Weekend Picks, Stephanie Burke, 29 May 2014

<http://badatsports.com/2014/top-5-weekend-picks-530-61/>

Eye Exam: Chicago Art News (Ordinary Projects launch), 23 May 2014

<http://art.newcity.com/2014/05/23/eye-exam-chicago-art-news/>

Best of 2013, Top Arts and Culture Stories in Chicago, Laura Pearson (ed.), 20 December 2013, Time Out Chicago

<http://www.timeoutchicago.com/things-to-do/chicago-blog/16517836/best-of-2013-top-arts-and-culture-stories-in-chicago?package=16515991>

Guns and Butter, Justine Fowler, 1 February 2013, Springfield State Journal-Register, page B1

The Incomplete, Self-Generating Exhibition, Abraham Ritchie, 1 February 2013, Bad At Sports

<http://badatsports.com/2013/the-incomplete-self-generating-exhibition/>

Interview: Guns And Butter, An Art Exhibit At UIS, Rachel Otwell, 30 January 2013, WUIS Radio
Industry of the Ordinary at the Cultural Center, Lauren Weinberg, 17 January 2013, Time Out Chicago, <http://www.timeoutchicago.com/arts-culture/art-design/15990311/industry-of-the-ordinary-at-the-chicago-cultural-center>

Industry of the Ordinary: Sic Transit Gloria Mundi, Haddon Pearson, 13 January 2013, Haddon Pearson Blog, <http://haddonpearson.blogspot.co.uk/2013/01/industry-of-ordinary-lannysilverman.html>

Top 5 Art Exhibitions in Chicago of 2012, Alicia Eler, 28 December 2012, Hyperallergic, <http://hyperallergic.com/62668/top-5-chicago-shows-of-2012/>

Top 5 Art Exhibitions in Chicago in 2012, Jason Foubberg, 20 December 2012, NewCity Art, <http://art.newcity.com/2012/12/20/newcitys-top-5-of-everything-2012-art/>

Eye Exam: Nose to Air with Celebrity Scent, Jason Foubberg, 15 December 2012, NewCity Art <http://art.newcity.com/2012/12/15/eye-exam-nose-to-the-air-with-celebrity-scents/>

Bad at Sports podcast featuring Industry of the Ordinary about Sic Transit Gloria Mundi, 11 December 2012
<http://badatsports.com/2012/episode-380-industry-of-the-ordinary/>

Buttering Up Obama, Trevor Ballanger, 5 November 2012, The Columbia Chronicle <http://columbiachronicle.com/buttering-up-obama/>

Obama Butter Sculpture Visits Loop, Lauren Weinburg, 31 October 2012, Time Out Chicago Exhibitionist Blog
<http://www.timeoutchicago.com/arts-culture/art-design/15831386/obama-butter-sculpture-visits-the-loop>

Eye Exam: Butter Me Up, Mister Obama, Alicia Eler, 23 October 2012, Newcity Art <http://art.newcity.com/2012/10/23/eye-exam-butter-me-up-mister-obama/>

An Artistic Industry of the Ordinary, Philip A. Harigan, 5 October 2012, Hyperallergic <http://hyperallergic.com/57907/an-artistic-industry-of-the-ordinary/>

From Chicago: Sic Transit Gloria Mundi, Julia Glosemeyer, 1 October 2012, Art Practical http://www.artpractical.com/shotgun_review/sic_transit_gloria

Ordinary Art Leaves Viewer to Answer What it All Means, Claudine Ise, 6 September 2012, Chicago Tribune, page 4
http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2012-09-05/entertainment/ct-ent-0906-ordinary-art-review-20120905_1_ordinary-art-gallery-sculptures

Art and Industry, Alison Cuddy, 20 August 2012, WBEZ blog, <http://www.wbez.org/sections/culture/art-and-industry-august-20-26-101810>

Review: Industry of the Ordinary/Chicago Cultural Center, Bert Stabler, 28 August 2012
<http://art.newcity.com/2012/08/28/review-industry-of-the-ordinarychicago-cultural-center/>

The Extraordinary Banality of the Ordinary as Art, Eric Felten, The Wall Street Journal, 10 August 2012, page D12
http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10000872396390443537404577579114213909048.html?mod=WSJ_article_comments#articleTabs%3Dcomments

Industry of the Ordinary at Watkins, Joe Nolan, Nashville Scene, 3 March 2011, <http://www.nashvillescene.com/nashville/industry-of-the-ordinary/Event?oid=2274889>

Eye Exam: Forging a New Frontier, Jason Foubberg, New City Art, 22 November 2010, <http://art.newcity.com/2010/11/22/eye-exam-forging-a-frontier/-more-6890>

Historical, and Now Safer Too, Joe Duggan, Lincoln Journal-Star, 17 September 2010, page B1

39 Verbs, Patrice Connelly, New City, 12 October 2009, <http://art.newcity.com/2009/10/12/art-break-helping-verbs/>

39 Verbs, Chicago Art Review, 14 November 2009, <http://chicagoartreview.com/2009/11/14/minireview-industry-of-the-ordinary-packer-schopf/>

39 Verbs, Erik Wenzel, ArtSlant Chicago, 12 October 2009,
<http://www.artslant.com/chi/articles/show/10744>

39 Verbs, Jeriah Hildwine, ArtTalk Chicago, 15 October 2009,
<http://www.chicagonow.com/blogs/arttalk-chicago/2009/10/39-verbs-at-packer-schopf-gallery.html>

Collective Bargains, feature article about *Industry of the Ordinary*'s NEIU show, Lauren Weinberg,
Time Out Chicago, September 17-23 2009, page 44, <http://timeoutchicago.com/arts-culture/art-design/68349/collective-bargains>

Aesthetics, The Other Journal, Heather Smith, May 2009, page 21

Critics' Picks-Industry of the Ordinary at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Time Out Chicago,
October 2-8, 2008

The Five-Year Plan; Breakout Artists 2004-2007: Where are they now?, Rachel Furnari and David
Mark Wise, New City, 24 April 2008

Ruby Satellite, Peter Frank, Art on Paper, March/April 2007 (repro.)

Ruby Satellite, Jeffrey Ryan, Frieze, March 2007 (repro.)

Anything but Ordinary, Chrissy Mahlmeister, Columbia Chronicle, 22 January 2007

Industry of the Ordinary: Featured Artists for Chicago Artists Month 2006, Department of Cultural
Affairs, City of Chicago, (repro.)

Online catalog for *Propagation* show at Polvo, Chicago, October 2006, including video interview with
Sabrina Raaf, (repro.)

Bad at Sports podcast featuring *Industry of the Ordinary*, 24 July 2006,
<http://badatsports.com/2006/episode-47-industry-of-the-ordinary/> (repro.)

Breakout Artists: Chicago's Next Generation of Image Makers, Michael Workman, New City, 27 April
2006 (repro.)

Chicago Artist Resource, *Artist Story*, *Industry of the Ordinary*, January 2006,
<http://www.chicagoartistsresource.org/artist-stories/industry-ordinary> (repro.)

Industry of the Ordinary, Bridge magazine feature article, Issue #17, February 2006 (repro.)

Ten Chicago Artists Everyone Should Know, Art Letter, Chicago Life, NY Times, 16 Oct. 2005

Best of Chicago, New City, September 29, 2005

Textbook: Notes Around the Margins, Link's Hall, 2005, essays by Corey Postiglione and
Susan Snodgrass (repro.)

Whitewalls, *Fine Words Butter No Cabbage*, Winter 2005 (repro.)

Critic's Choice, *Chicago Reader*, April 17, 2003 (repro.)

Gestures in the Paradise of the Ordinary, Men of the World Press, Fall 2000 (repro.) (MW)

Remembering the entertaining enigmas of Men of the World, Chicago Reader, March 31, 2000 (MW)

Agitator: Contemporary Art of Propaganda, Susan Snodgrass, C, Summer 2000, Page 40 (repro.) (AB)

Men of the World, New York Press, October 14, 1997 (repro.) (MW)

Language And Text Up Against The Wall, Public Art Review, Summer 1995, Page 18 (repro.) (AB)

Earth Day Performance, Chicago Tribune magazine, July 30 1995, Page 23 (repro.) (MW)

Adam Brooks: Only Words, James Yood, Glass, Spring 1995, Page 28 (repro.) (AB)

Art Attack 'Kills' 100 in Daley Plaza, Chicago Sun -Times, April 19, 1994 (repro.) (MW)

Adam Brooks, Muranushi Lederman Productions, Kim Levin, Voice Choices, Village Voice,
8 February 1994, Page 69 (AB)

Men of the World: 10 days in May, P-Form, Summer 1993 (repro.) (MW)

Installations for New Spaces, Kathryn Hixson, Flash Art, March/April 1992, Page 148 (AB)

Culture, Identity and Colonialism, Whitewalls #31, 1992, (repro.) (MW)

Adam Brooks, Abel Joseph, Joe Scanlan, Artscribe, Summer 1991, Page 72 (repro.) (AB)

Adam Brooks, Abel Joseph Gallery, James Yood, Artforum, April 1991, Page 130 (repro.) (AB)

The Blasted Word; Adam Brooks at Abel Joseph Gallery, Lynda Barckert, Chicago Reader, 1 February

1991, Section 1, Page 34 (repro.) (AB)

Selected Awards:

Illinois Arts Council, Artist Project Grant, 2012

Illinois Arts Council New Performance Forms Artist Fellowship, 2006

Illinois Humanities Council, 2005

Faculty Development Grant, Columbia College Chicago, 2016, 2012, 2005

Faculty Development Grant, University of St. Francis, Joliet, Illinois, 2005

Illinois Arts Council Visual Arts Fellowship Grant, 1997, 1990 (AB)

Community Arts Assistance Program Grant, City of Chicago, 2005 (MW)

Community Arts Assistance Program Grant, City of Chicago, 2005, 1999, 1996, 1993, 1990 (AB)

Travel Grant, *Museum in Progress, Vienna*, Austrian Government, 1993 (AB)

Selected Collections:

Gabriel Mayer, Munich, Germany

Aaron Levine, Washington, D. C.

Andreas Waldburg-Wolfegg, Chicago, Illinois

Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago, Illinois

Victoria and Steven Burns, Los Angeles, California

The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois (AB)

Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (AB)

Bard College, Center for Curatorial Studies Museum, New York (AB)

Peter Norton, Santa Monica, California (AB)