

# Mark Rospenda

South Bend, IN  
708-712-7180 (cell)  
mrospenda@gmail.com  
markrospenda.com | @markrospenda

---

## Bio

Mark Rospenda's meticulous nature always presents itself through his work. Using paper as a means of exploring the delicate, mutable nature of our thinking processes, Rospenda physically cuts into, shreds, and converts his drawings into pulp. Parts and elements are exchanged between them with some finished works evolving over a number of years. The images that result are moments within a stream of thinking and forgetting — records of memories lost, found and transforming. His work has been exhibited at the Spartanburg Art Museum, Spartanburg, SC; DEMO Project, Springfield, IL; Herron Galleries, Indianapolis, IN; and other locations nationally. As the winner of the Director's Choice Award in the 2016 *Art From the Heartland* exhibition, Rospenda was granted a solo exhibition at the Indianapolis Art Center, Indianapolis, IN, in early 2019. Rospenda lives and works in South Bend, IN, where he is Curator of Exhibitions and Collections at the South Bend Museum of Art. He has organized and overseen more than 75 exhibitions during his time at the museum.

## Education

- 2006 MFA, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2000 BA, DePaul University, Chicago, IL
- 1999 College Year in Athens, Greece

## Solo and Two-Person Exhibitions

- 2023 **(scheduled)** DePauw University, Greencastle, IN
- 2021 *An Unfinished Monument to Truth*, Ripon College, Ripon, WI
- 2020 *My Library is a Garden*, Buchanan Art Center, Buchanan, MI
- 2019 *Breathing Room*, Indianapolis Art Center, Indianapolis, IN
- 2017 *Slow Slow Down*, Moreau Galleries, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN  
*A Forgetting Place*, DEMO Project, Springfield, IL
- 2015 *Small Monuments*, Colfax Campus Gallery, Colfax Cultural Center, South Bend, IN
- 2014 *Affect Effects: A Two-Person Exhibition Featuring Artworks by Mark Rospenda and Megan Myers Schweitzer*, Greiner Art Gallery, Hanover College, Hanover, IN. Leticia Bajuyo, Curator.  
*Unbreakable*, Quincy Art Center, Quincy, IL. Julie Nelson, Curator.
- 2006 *Rickety*, Masters Thesis Show, University of Chicago, Midway Studios, Chicago, IL
- 2003 *5 Recent Paintings*, Gallery Mornea, Evanston, IL
- 2001 *Works From the Basement*, Lorimier Gallery, Arts Council of SE Missouri, Cape Girardeau, MO

## Select Group Exhibitions

- 2021 *Nature Now*, Lubeznik Center for the Arts, Michigan City, IN. Lora Fosberg, Curator.
- 2020 *Rockford Midwestern Biennial*, Rockford Art Museum, Rockford, IL  
*Carry Weight, Hold Light*, Collaborative exhibition conceived and curated by Heather Brammeier, Contemporary Art Center of Peoria, Peoria, IL
- 2019 *The Alchemy of Paper*, Berkshire, Reese, and Paul Galleries, Herron School of Art and Design, Indianapolis, IN  
*Fun Squad: Four Walls and a Dance Party*, 225 Fifth St., Benton Harbor, MI  
*Small Works*, IU Kokomo Downtown Gallery, Indiana University Kokomo, Kokomo, IN

- 
- 2018 *Fun Squad: The Kids Table*, Lyons Gallery, Southwestern Michigan College, Dowagiac, MI  
*Drawn to Print*, (SCENE) MetroSpace, East Lansing, MI. (catalog)  
*To Carry, To Hold*, Collaborative exhibition with Heather Brammeier in Studio #222, International Studio and Curatorial Program, Brooklyn, NY  
*Fun Squad: With Our Powers Combined*, The GhostLight, Benton Harbor, MI  
*demo DEMO*, DEMO Project, Springfield, IL  
*Under Pressure*, Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts - Art Gallery, Indiana University South Bend, South Bend, IN
- 2017 *Paper Worlds*, Spartanburg Art Museum, Spartanburg, SC
- 2016 *Inked, Pressed, Cut & Sewn*, ArtPrize 8, (106) Gallery, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI  
*Art From the Heartland*, Indianapolis Art Center, Indianapolis, IN  
*Alumni Art Exhibition*, Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL  
*29th Annual McNeese National Works on Paper Exhibition*, McNeese State University, Lake Charles, LA
- 2014 *This Can't End Well (This Can't Go Wrong)*, The Mary-Frances and Bill Veeck Gallery, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, IL. Rachel Herman, Curator.  
*Zine! Zine!*, Roos Arts, Rosendale, NY
- 2012 *Rock Paper Scissors: Process & Perception*, Schingoethe Gallery, Aurora University, Aurora, IL. Meg Bero, Curator.
- 2011 *Cut*, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL. Eleanor Spiess-Ferris and Beth Hart, Curators.  
*Chain Letter*, Samson Projects, Boston, MA  
*The Perpetual Motion of a Still Life*, Ryerson Woods, Deerfield, IL. Sara Black, Joseph Belknap and Sarah Belknap, Curators.
- 2010 *Artist Made Books*, Dittmar Gallery, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL  
*Faculty and Staff Art Show*, Schingoethe Gallery, Aurora University, Aurora, IL
- 2008 *The Crowded Space Below the Giant*, H.F. Johnson Gallery, Carthage College, Kenosha, WI. Joseph Cory, Curator.
- 2007 *Another Story*, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL. Pat Swanson, Curator. (catalog)  
*Drawing No Conclusions: A Survey of Contemporary Drawing*, Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, Grand Rapids, MI. Juror: Dominic Molon, Associate Curator, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago.
- 2006 *9 x 12 Works on Paper Show*, Fort Worth Community Arts Center, Fort Worth, TX  
*Night of 1,000 Drawings*, Artists Space, New York, NY  
*The Space Between*, MFA Group Exhibition, Del Prado Building, Chicago, IL
- 2005 *Experiment 400/5*, Gallery 400, Chicago, IL  
*On Notes*, Franke Institute for the Humanities, Chicago, IL  
*Annual Student Show*, smART Museum of Art, Chicago, IL  
*Two If By See*, Franke Institute for the Humanities, Chicago, IL
- 2004 *Narrative Purgatory*, Franke Institute for the Humanities, Chicago, IL

**Selected Artist Talks, Visiting Artist and Juror Positions**

- 2021 Ripon College, Artist talk, Ripon, WI  
Colfax Cultural Center, Juror, Art and Social Justice, South Bend, IN  
Concours d'Elegance at Copshaholm, Judge, South Bend, IN
- 2020 Buchanan Art Center, Artist talk, Buchanan, MI

## Mark Rospenda

South Bend, IN  
708-712-7180 (cell)  
mrospenda@gmail.com  
markrospenda.com | @markrospenda

---

- 2019 Bowling Green State University School of Art, Visiting artist talk, Bowling Green, OH
- 2017 Saint Mary's College, Artist talk, Notre Dame, IN  
Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana, Juror, *Another's Treasure: Fine and Functional Art From Recycled Materials*, Evansville, IN  
Northern Indiana Pastel Society, Artist talk, South Bend, IN
- 2016 Saint Mary's College, Juror, *End of the Semester Student Exhibition*, Notre Dame, IN
- 2015 Harper College, Juror, *Small Works: 38th Annual National Art Exhibition*, Palatine, IL
- 2014 Hanover College, Artist talk, Hanover, IN
- 2013 Artpost Gallery, Co-Juror, *We Are The River*, South Bend, IN

### Public Projects and Collections

Buchanan District Library, Buchanan, MI  
Ripon College, Ripon, WI  
24-foot painted mural, DePaul University, Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, Chicago, IL  
Various private collections

### Bibliography

- 2021 Volmert, Isabella. "Black Lives Matter and Pandemic Focus of this Year's 'Art and Social Justice Exhibition,'" *South Bend Tribune*, July 17.
- 2019 Waxman, Lori. "The 60 Wrd/Min Art Critic Reviews 30 Artists' Works," *NUVO*, May 7. Retrieved from nuvo.net  
Elder, B. Mark, host. "Mark Rospenda, Paper Pulp King." *The Buffalo Bro 1/2 Hour*, Radio DePaul. March 11.
- 2018 "SMC Art Gallery Exhibits Berrien Artist Collective," *The Southwester*. (n.d.). Retrieved from southwester.swmich.edu
- 2008 Hornickel, Mark. "Putting Things in Perspective," *Kenosha News*, October 31, Get Out section, 22–23
- 2007 *Bad at Sports* podcast, episode 109, September 30  
Jameson, A D. "Newcity Picks" selection, *Newcity*, September 13  
Swanson, Pat. *Another Story*, Hyde Park Art Center exhibition catalog essay. (images)  
Puma, Amy B. "Of Mouse and Man," *University of Chicago Magazine*, September/October, 54. (image)
- 2006 Philbin, Gail. "Drawings Defy, Define Category," *The Grand Rapids Press*, December 24  
"Tips & Picks" selection on nyartsmagazine.com, *NY Arts Magazine*, December 2006–March 2007 (image)
- 2001 Blackwell, Sam. "Of Dreams and the Abstract," *Southeast Missourian*, November 2 (image)

### Professional Affiliations

- 2014–Present Curator, Exhibitions and Collections, South Bend Museum of Art, South Bend, IN
- 2021–Present White Columns Curated Artist Registry, New York, NY
- 2011–2013 Associate Curator, South Bend Museum of Art, South Bend, IN
- 2006–2014 Slide Registry and Viewing Program (closed and archived), Drawing Center, New York, NY