

Creative Research Statement

- Recent investigations: Ancient Paleolithic smartphones, gouty toe-bone erosions, Victorian house turrets, chicken wire vortexes, lunar tee pee capsules, and detailed textile patterns on T-bone steaks, among others.
- My work (drawings, collages, paintings, prints, hybrid projects and mixed/multimedia performance) is structured within a growing number of ongoing series, each of which has an overarching theme based on various elements (images, colors, feelings, memories, ideas, etc.) extracted from daily life.
- Each series goes through an extended process of compiling, examining, experimenting and synthesizing through repeated iterations. The end results are complex, detailed abstract-ish pieces that distill and signify some of the meaningful discoveries and surprising notions found in my seemingly ordinary existence. Below are two current projects:

- ***The The Tar Tar Pits: Drawing Movements 1-3***

A group of six artists will create a large, ephemeral drawing/performance piece in front of a live audience based on guidelines from a composition. The composition uses a notational system that connects spatial coordinates and types or qualities of drawing marks with particular symbols and cues in written form (what I call “Composed Drawing”).

Composed Drawing is an investigation of how artists can communicate the act of drawing to an audience in real time rather than as a finished or static object (i.e., a framed drawing on a wall). It’s also a way to explore the possibilities of collaboration in the traditionally solitary realm of drawing. With this particular composition, the title *The The Tar Tar Pits* refers to The La Brea Tar Pits in Los Angeles (La Brea means “the tar” in Spanish) where a vast trove of Ice Age fossils immersed in tar are being excavated and displayed. This piece is a three-part rumination on my childhood memories of this fossil site.

- ***Fiery Arms***

Conceived as a Kickstarter project (crowdfunding website, www.kickstarter.com) for spring 2014, *Fiery Arms* and the *Fiery League of Arms Partnership (aka FLAP)* is a creative framework for exploring divisive, misleading, manipulative and fear-inducing language, imagery and symbolism used by various individuals and organizations in the USA. The central goal of this project is to expose, undermine and transform this type of harmful communication through satire and plain old American nonsense. On Kickstarter FLAP will raise funds to support the printing of a complex, 5-color “Fiery Arm” letterpress print edition as well as for the creation of T-shirts, stickers and coasters displaying the FLAP crest.