

AQUARIUM GALLERY

ARTIST: Tom Carey

(Ann Arbor, MI)

The Iguana House

(Paper, acetate, wood and acrylic paint shadow puppets;
Lokta paper collage faces; relief print prayer flags;
fabric; jute twine; styrofoam)

June 26th – August 5th, 2017

Backstage at the Shadow Theater,
Front row at a Bon exorcism,
Slumber party in a Wunderkammer.
A Hut on Hen's Legs.

The puppets move in a procession
Around the Tree of Life,
Totems watch silent from the sidelines,
Prayers to the Snake Goddess flutter overhead.

ABOUT THE ARTIST:

Tom Carey was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. He received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting from Wayne State University in 1996, and a Master in Fine Arts from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in 2000. While working on his MFA, Tom began making relief prints, often incorporating them into large collaged paintings. Relief printmaking and drawing have been the focus of Tom's studio practice over the past fifteen years. His work has been shown in galleries in New York City, Philadelphia, and Detroit. In addition to print editions, Tom has also incorporated his relief prints in unique handmade books, and hand printed covers to photo copied art zines. One of Tom's handmade books is in the Print Collection of the New York Public Library. In 2014, his prints were included in the Rotland Press publication "Chasing Posada: A Macabre Populist in the City". As an extension of the wood cut process, Tom began making, and performing with, shadow puppets in 2007. These original shadow puppet performances have been featured in shows at the Detroit Institute of the Arts, and Issue Project Room in Brooklyn New York. Tom was a featured artist at the first Dlectricity, Detroit's Exhibition of Light and Art in 2012 and in 2015 was commissioned to create an original shadow puppet play for the Porous Borders Festival in Detroit.

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