

Center for Tactical Magic

The Center for Tactical Magic engages in extensive research, development, and deployment of the pragmatic system known as Tactical Magic. A fusion force summoned from the ways of the artist, the magician, the ninja, and the private investigator, Tactical Magic is an amalgam of disparate arts invoked for the purpose of actively addressing Power on individual, communal, and transnational fronts. At the CTM we are committed to achieving the Great Work of Tactical Magic through community-based projects, daily interdiction, and the activation of latent energies toward positive social transformation.

Lectures/Presentations/Performances:

- 2006**
- Otis College of Art & Design – Los Angeles, CA
 - UCLA – Los Angeles, CA
 - University of San Francisco, SF, CA
- 2005**
- School of the Art Institute, Chicago, IL
 - University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
 - Ohio University, Athens, OH
 - Mess Hall, Chicago, IL
 - San Francisco Art Institute, SF, CA
 - Tyler School of Art, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA
 - University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL
 - Open Source, Champaign, IL
 - JFK University, Orinda, CA
- 2004**
- City University of New York, NYC, NY
 - New School University, NYC, NY
 - JFK University, Orinda, CA
 - San Francisco Art Institute, SF, CA
 - California College of the Arts (formerly CCAC) San Francisco, CA
 - University of the Pacific, Stockton, CA
 - Lake Erie College, OH
- 2003**
- CAA panel - Upstaging Pedagogy in Theatre of Conflict, ArtSpace, NYC
 - Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia, PA
 - University of California, Berkeley, CA
 - Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY
 - JFK University, Orinda, CA
 - C-Level, Los Angeles, CA
 - *Cultural Bounty Hunting*, Artists' Television Access, San Francisco, CA
- 2002**
- School of the Art Institute – Chicago

- Contemporary Art Center, North Adams, MA
- California College of Arts & Crafts, San Francisco, CA

2001 - University of California at Santa Cruz

Selected Exhibitions:

2006 - *People for a Better Tomorrow*, Sweeney Art Gallery – Riverside, CA
 - *Detoured Menu*, The LAB, San Francisco, CA

2005 - *Tactical Ice Cream Unit*, Grand Arts, Kansas City, MO
 - *Detours*, Huntington Beach Art Center, Huntington Beach, CA
 - *Tactical Ice Cream Unit*, Ohio University, Athens, OH
 - *Image Acts*, Glass House Gallery, NYC
 - *And So Forth*, OfficeOps, NYC, an Amnesty Int'l Firefly Arts Project curated by Apsara DiQuinzio & Tina Kukielski
 - *Uprising!*, Cal State University Long Beach, CA
 - *Dress*, Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA
 - *Shopdropping: Experiments in the Aisles*, Pond, SF, CA
 - *The Homeland Security Bell*, Tyler School of Art, Temple University, PA

2004 - *The Interventionists*, Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art
 - *Montenegro Festival for New Media & Art*, MABM, Montenegro
 - *The Tactical Magic Academy*, Lake Erie College, OH
 - *Aquatopia*, University of the Pacific/Reynolds Gallery, Stockton, CA
 - *October Surprise*, Northeast Los Angeles, CA
 - *Silver Lake Film Festival*, ArcLight Theater, Los Angeles, CA
 - *(De)Tourism*, Contemporary Artists Center, North Adams, MA
 - *Simulcast*, Gallery 213 S. 46th St, Philadelphia, PA
 - *Laboratory for Insurrectionary Imagination*, London, UK
 - Harvard University, Dudley House, Cambridge, MA

2003 - *Copy Cat*, Art Academy of Aarhus, Denmark
 - *Version (03)*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
 - *17 Reasons*, Jack Hanley Gallery, San Francisco, CA
 - *Department of Space & Land Reclamation*, Balazo, San Francisco, CA
 - *Let's Be Active*, Southern Exposure, San Francisco, CA
 - *Tactical Magic*, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL
 - *Guerilla Performance Locator*, Curated by Leslie Hill & Helen Paris, UK
 - *Get-Carded.net*, online exhibition curated by Trebor Scholz
 - *Operation How, Now, Wow*, 16 Beaver Group, NYC
 - *Memefest*, International online exhibition, www.memefest.org

- *Boutique*, Blackbird Space, San Francisco, CA
- 2002**
 - *Version (02)*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
 - *Smoky Hill River Outpost*, Salina Art Center / Smoky Hill River Festival
 - *(Un)Mediated Vision*, Salina Art Center, Salina, KS
 - *POW!*, California College of Arts & Crafts, San Francisco, CA
 - *Warrior Games*, Long & Pollack Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2001**
 - *Parallel Info*, travelling exhibition, Austria
 - Long & Pollack Gallery, San Francisco, CA
 - *BIG*, California College of Arts & Crafts, Oakland, CA
 - *Department of Space & Land Reclamation*, Butcher Shop, Chicago, IL
- 2000**
 - *Counterproductive Industries*, 1926 Gallery, Chicago, IL

Nomadic Public Projects:

- 2003** – *Free Occult Services*: Yellowstone Nat'l Park, WY; Luxor, Las Vegas
- 2002** – Black Panther Historical Marker (w/ Jeremy Deller & David Hilliard)
- 2001-03** – *Free Occult Services*: CA, OR, WA, ID, MT, WY, UT, NV, IL, MA
- 2000** – *Citizen Survey 2000*: CA, IL
- 1999** – *Tagmaster*: CA, IL, DC, Paris, Sydney

Publications:

- “*Are We Still in the Dark Ages?*” Gach, Aaron, Art Journal, Sp. 2004
- *The Interventionists*, Thompson, Nato & Sholette, Greg, eds., MIT Press 2004
- “*Tactics Without Tears*,” Gach, Aaron & Paglen, Trevor, Journal of Aesthetics & Protest, Vol. 1, Issue 2, 2003
- *Xtreme Fashion*, Smith, Courtenay & Topham, Sean, eds., Prestel-Suche, 2005
- Tactical Ice Cream Unit, 3rd Floor, Issue #4, 2006

Residencies:

- 2005** – Grand Arts, Kansas City, MO
- 2002** – The Experimental Thinking Lab, North Adams, MA
- 2002** – Salina Art Center, Salina, KS – Artist-in-Residence

Awards:

- 2005** – Creative Capital - Finalist
- 2004** – Grand Arts project commission/production grant - \$36,000
- 2003** – First Prize – Memefest: International Festival of Radical Communication
- 2002** – Artist Award – Salina City Arts Commission - \$4000

References:

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www.tacticalmagic.org

