



CLEVELAND ARTS PRIZE
58TH ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

Sunday, October 21, 2018 at 2pm

In May, for the Inter-Urban Art Project and Midtown Cleveland, he unveiled his largest work to date: a 200-foot-long, 6-foot-high mural with a 40-foot long companion piece. Mounted on the Euclid Avenue bridge over the Inner Belt, the murals depict children and adults representing the diversity of the student body at CSU and the surrounding neighborhood and the idea of tearing down the barriers that disconnect people.

Scratching the Surface, a recent exhibition of ink drawings and prints at Zygote Press, presented a powerful collection of intimate portraits exclusively featuring Steward's four-year-old son. He's been painting Darius Jr., 6, since he was born and plans to paint him for a long time.

"I do a ton of images with my son," Darius says. "He's a stand-in for me in some ways. I get to see him grow and see things in him that remind me of things I had to deal with, and that sparks a lot of the image making."

Darius has exhibited artwork at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Cleveland, Tregoning & Co., William Busta Gallery, FORUM Artspace, Kent State University, the University of Delaware, the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, The Presidents Council of Cleveland, and the Cleveland Clinic. He is working on a number of new projects for next year, including shows at a gallery in Terre Haute, IN, and Tregoning & Co. gallery, and a mural for Cuyahoga Community College. In 2016, he was a recipient of the Creative Workforce Fellowship.

"When it's all said and done, I now have a clear understanding of what type of things to put into my image to get what I want to say out there and start a conversation," he concludes. "I've just keep pushing that."



MARK REIGELMAN

EMERGING PRIZE, DESIGN

Mark is passionate about creating dynamic public installations for his hometown. One of his most memorable experiences was an early project, *Blue Birds*, which consisted of dozens of hand-sculpted resin birds perched on trees, houses and telephone poles throughout the Edgewater Hill neighborhood.

"It was a great example of community collaboration and urban investigation," he says.

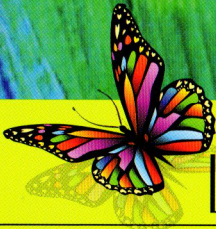
Growing up in Sheffield Lake, Mark was the kid in his community with the tattoo stand on his lawn, giving neighborhood children Magic Marker tattoos for a nickel. When he wasn't playing art entrepreneur, he was making garage sales signs for his mom, creating short films with his sister or duplicating his father's pencil drawings.

In high school, Mark was completely unaware that "artist/designer" was a career option and was carelessly considering Physical Therapy until his art teacher told him that there were special schools dedicated to art and design education. "This changed everything!" he remembers. "I started frantically pulling together slides and preparing my submission to the Cleveland Institute of Art which was the only school to which I applied."

In his last couple of years at the Institute, Mark lined up internships with artists and designers in New York City. The exposure to bustling urban environments captivated his artistic interests. In his fifth year, he received a Windgate Fellowship allowing him to design and install *Stair Squares* on the steps of Brooklyn Borough Hall in New York and his final thesis, *Home Sweet Home*, consisted of redesigning Cleveland bus shelters. "These are places, steps and shelters, where people were gathering but not conversing," he explains. "I was interested in using art and design as a catalyst for social interaction. Those two projects started checking the boxes for what I was interested in both personally and artistically: complex installations, multifaceted processes and significant collaborations with a community and with people in other fields."

In 2006, Mark received his BFA in Sculpture at the Cleveland Institute of Art and an advanced product design certificate at Central St. Martin's College of Art and Design in London, UK. He moved to New York full-time shortly afterward and worked a variety of odd jobs to pay the bills while he created his art at night. He designed the iconic *Wrap* planters that enhance downtown Cleveland's

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