

OVER MY HEAD

400 N PEORIA ST. CHICAGO, IL 60642

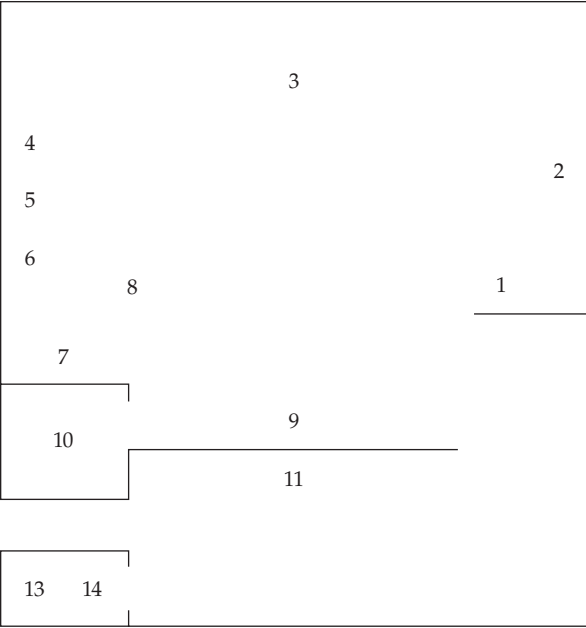
*Encounters with Conceptual Art
in a Flyover City, 1984–2015*

Curated by Gareth Thomas Kaye and Iris Colburn

Presented by Gertie

Dara Birnbaum
Gaylen Gerber
Wendy Jacob
Rashid Johnson
Tony Lewis
Martin Puryear
Kay Rosen
Rosemarie Trockel
Jordan Wolfson
Molly Zuckerman-Hartung

September 19–October 11, 2025



12

1.
Wendy Jacob
Untitled, 1988
Rubber, fans, and timing
motors
Courtesy of the artist

2.
Molly Zuckerman-Hartung
Notley, 2013
Latex housepaint, enamel,
and spray paint on
dropcloth, hinged in two
attached parts
Courtesy of the artist and
Corbett vs. Dempsey

3.
Dara Birnbaum
*Tiananmen Square: Break-In
Transmission*, 1990
5-channel color video, 4
channels of stereo sound,
surveillance switcher and
custom-designed support
system
Edition of 2 plus 1 AP
Collection of Glenstone
Museum, courtesy of the
estate of Dara Birnbaum and
Marian Goodman Gallery

4.
Rosemarie Trockel
Something of Tomorrow 2, 2008
Mixed media
Courtesy of the artist and
Sprüth-Magers

5.
Rosemarie Trockel
She is Dead 4, 2008
Mixed media
Courtesy of the artist and
Sprüth-Magers

6.
Rosemarie Trockel
Dutch Door, 2008
Mixed media
Courtesy of the artist and
Sprüth-Magers

7.
Martin Puryear
Untitled, 1989
Bronze
Edition 1 of 5
Helyn Goldenberg
and Michael Alper

8.
Tony Lewis
Untitled 5 (2015–), 2025
Graphite on paper
Courtesy of the artist

Untitled 8 (2016–), 2025
Graphite on paper
Courtesy of the artist

Over My Head presents a fragment of Chicago’s oft-forgotten position as a nerve center for post-conceptual art. The works on view (or versions of them) were at some point exhibited, sold, or produced in Chicago between 1984 and 2015. Their inclusion here both recalls particular exhibitions and, more tangentially, the complex entanglements between artists, dealers, curators, critics, and collectors that come to shape how we know a place (and an artist’s work) in hindsight. Among the cohort of galleries and institutions whose programs laid the foundation for this recollection of Chicago are Donald Young, Rhona Hoffman, Feature, Robbin Lockett, Rowley Kennerk, Shane Campbell, Monique Meloche, Corbett vs. Dempsey, GRAY, the Art Institute of Chicago, the MCA Chicago, and the Renaissance Society.

This exhibition may be approached in two distinct, if not reciprocal, ways: as an assembly of discrete artworks relating to a distinct moment in an artist’s history with Chicago and as a chorus asynchronously inciting a contemporary conversation around time, place, and memory, which might remind us that forgetting can sometimes be an invitation to return.

9.
Gaylen Gerber
*Backdrop/Over My Head:
Encounters with Art in a
Flyover City*, n.d.
Background paper,
aluminum push-pins
Courtesy of the artist and
Layr, Vienna

10.
Jordan Wolfson
Perfect Lover, 2007
Digital animation
transferred to 16 mm film,
color, sound; 3 min.
Edition of 3 plus 2 AP
Courtesy of the artist
and Gagosian
(DO NOT PHOTOGRAPH
THIS WORK)

11.
Kay Rosen
Elvis, Elvis, 1994
Latex paint on wall
Courtesy of the artist and
Krakow Witkin Gallery,
Boston

12.
Rashid Johnson
Remembering D.B. Cooper,
2013
Five hand-marked wooden
chairs, shea butter, plants,
and burlap
Courtesy of the artist and
Monique Meloche Gallery,
Chicago

13.
Gaylen Gerber
Support, n.d.
Oil paint on terra-cotta
fragment from the facade of
the Chicago Stock Exchange,
Adler and Sullivan, Chicago,
United States, 1893–94,
demolished 1972
Courtesy of the artist and
Layr, Vienna

14.
Gaylen Geber
Support, n.d.
Oil paint on souvenir from
Eggs, 2014 by Darren Bader
Courtesy of the artist and
Layr, Vienna

Please scan the QR
code to read further
about the artworks:

