

Mark Nelson  
2232 West 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Chicago, IL 60608  
(312) 502-1950  
[artmaze@gmail.com](mailto:artmaze@gmail.com)  
[www.gringolandiastudio.com](http://www.gringolandiastudio.com)

*“Mark Nelson's work was forged by his childhood experiences overseas. Raised as a Colonial American outside of the continental U.S., his international travels culminated in a near twenty-year residence within the Republic of Panama where he developed an interest in visual and performing arts. Nelson returned to the USA to finish his formal education at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, followed by a Master's in fine arts at the University of Illinois in Chicago. Nelson's work can be found in private collection including the permanent collection of the U.S. Embassy-Consulate in the Republic of Panama. Nelson has also participated in public art projects such as the Cow's on Parade and Lighthouses on the Mag Mile. His permanent residence is located in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood where he resides and works in his Gringolandia Studio.”*

## EXHIBITIONS and PROJECTS

### Scheduled

*Sólo un poco aquí: Dia de los Muertos: National Museum of Mexican Art - Chicago, IL*  
(collective)

#### 2020

*Art in place: CNL Projects - Chicago, IL (International collective)*

#### 2019

*Human Rights: Uri Eichen Gallery - Chicago, IL (collective)*  
*Confessions of an X-Zonian: Triton College Art Gallery – River Grove, IL (SOLO)*  
*Journey to Korea: OPEN Ctr for the Arts - Chicago, IL (collective)*  
*Fall Show: Oak Park Art League – Oak Park, IL (collective)*  
*Journey to Korea: OPEN Ctr for the Arts - Chicago, IL (collective)*  
*Colectivo: Triton College Art Gallery – River Grove, IL (collective)*  
*Safe Passage: Chicago Teachers Union - Chicago, IL (loan)*  
*Made in Pilsen XIV: Prospectus Gallery - Chicago, IL (collective)*  
*Narratives of Necessity: Three Seeds Gallery - Chicago, IL (SOLO)*  
*From the Vault: Prospectus Gallery - Chicago, IL (collective)*  
*Opalescence: Oak Park Art League, Oak Park, IL (collective)*  
*One Inspired Evening: Inspiration Corp - Chicago, IL (curated)*  
*All Politics are Local: Jackson Junge Gallery - Chicago, IL (curated)*

#### 2018

*Homecoming: Oak Park Art League – Oak Park, IL (members)*  
*Made in Pilsen XIII: Prospectus Gallery - Chicago, IL (curated)*  
*Cardboard Show: Co-Prosperity Sphere - Chicago, IL (curated)*  
*Sounds of Music: Jackson Junge Gallery - Chicago, IL (curated)*  
*Invisibilia: Governors State Univ. Art Gallery - Monee, IL (juried)*  
*From the Vault: Prospectus Gallery - Chicago, IL (curated)*  
*Lighthouses on the Mag Mile: “Dream” 626 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL*  
*Fox River Arts Ramble 2018: Gallery 1904 - Aurora, IL (invitational)*  
*Steam Punk Show: Triton College Art Gallery – River Grove, IL (invitational)*

*14<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit: Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art - Chicago, IL*  
*Sounds of Painting: Prospectus Gallery - Chicago, IL (SOLO)*  
*Identity/People: Gallery 1904 - Aurora, IL (collective)*

#### **2017**

*Superstitions portfolio: Coronado Print Studio, New York, NY (curated)*  
*Chornobyl - artists respond: Ukrainian Institute of America, New York, NY (curated)*  
*Jazz Record Art Collective: Fulton St. Collective - 3/22/17, Chicago, IL (invitational)*  
*Witness: the artist's response: Elephant Room Gallery - Chicago, IL (juried)*  
*College Art Faculty Invitational: Gallery 215 - NIU at Dekalb, IL (juried)*

#### **2016**

*Traditional to Contemporary: Oak Park Arts League, Oak Park, IL – (juried)*  
*Inequity Reversal: West Suburban Medical Center, Oak Park, IL (solo)*  
*Democritique; Hairpin Arts Center, Chicago, IL - Curated*  
*Members Show; Oak Park Arts League, Oak Park, IL - juried*  
*Art on Cardboard Show; Bridgeport Art Center, Chicago*  
*ConTextual; Oak Park Arts League, Oak Park, IL - juried*  
*Made in Pilsen XI: Prospectus Art Gallery, Chicago - Curated*  
*Triumph over Chaos: Vleck Gallery - Catholic Theological Union, Hyde Park, IL*  
*Chuee Taxua: Ferguson Art Gallery - Concordia Univ. Chicago, River Forest, IL*  
*Endangered Species: Prospectus Gallery, Chicago, IL (SOLO)*  
*Places Spaces: Oak Park Art League, Oak Park, IL*  
*2nd Annual Educator Show: Bridgeport Art Ctr., Chicago – Honorable Mention*

#### **2015**

*Art on Cardboard Show: Bridgeport Art Center, Chicago, IL (collective).*  
*Chuee Taxua: Museo de Arte Indígena Contemporáneo en Cuernavaca Mor., Mexico - (Curated)*  
*La Muerte Nina/Dia de los Muertos: National Museum of Mexican Art-Chicago, IL (Curated)*  
*Made in Pilsen X: Prospectus Gallery - Chicago, IL (Curated)*  
*Folktales and Legends: John Michael Kohler Arts Center - Sheboygan, WI (juried)*  
*Climate Crisis Solutions: Water Street Studios Gallery, Batavia, IL. (Juried)*  
*Art Educators Show: Illinois Institute of Art, Chicago. (Collective)*

#### **2014**

*Annual Cardboard Show: Project Onward-Bridgeport Art Center; Chicago, IL (collective)*  
*So Much More: Swedish Covenant Hospital; Chicago, IL (juried collective)*  
*Made in Pilsen IX: Prospectus Gallery, Chicago, IL (curated)*  
*Southside MANIFESTO: Co-Prosperity Sphere; Chicago, IL (collective)*  
*Survival, Spirit, ... Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art; Chicago, IL (4 person show)*  
*Artists on Board, ... Reverie Gallery-Lacuna Artist Lofts; Chicago, IL & Portland, OR*  
*Paraná; Paperish Mess, Chicago, IL (Installation)*  
*Gestos Graficos: Rene Arceo and Friends; Bridgeport Art Center, Chicago, IL (collective)*

#### **2013**

*CTU Strike 1yr Anniversary Art Show: URI-EICHEN Gallery; Chicago, IL (collective)*  
*Haiyan Relief Fundraiser: Co-Prosperity Sphere; Chicago, IL (collective)*  
*11th Annual Cardboard Show: Bridgeport Arts Center; Chicago, IL (collective)*  
*Made in Pilsen VIII: Prospectus Gallery, Chicago, IL (collective)*  
*Passages: Swedish Covenant Hospital, Chicago - Juried (collective)*  
*Indecent Liquidation: Prospectus Gallery, Chicago - 1 Person Show*  
*One Inspired Evening-Benefit: Stephen M. Bailey Auditorium, Chicago - Juried (Collective)*

**2012**

*Made in Pilsen VII*: **Prospectus Gallery**, Chicago, IL  
*Hanal Pixan: food for the Souls*; **National Museum of Mexican Art**, Chicago  
*\*A Conspiracy of Silence*; **Triton College Gallery**, River Grove, IL  
*We are the Awakening*, 6902 N. Glenwood, Chicago, IL  
*Keepers*; **National Museum of Mexican Art**, Chicago, IL  
*Santitos Portfolio*; **Casa Tres Mundos**, Chicago, Granada, Nicaragua (Traveling group show)

**2011**

\*Reverse Engineering; **Carlos & Dominguez Fine Arts Gallery**, Chicago  
*Made in Pilsen*; **Prospectus Gallery**, Chicago, IL  
*Testimony of Being*; **Swedish Covenant Hospital**, Chicago - Juried  
Arceo Press Print Portfolio; **Ferguson Art Gallery**, Concordia Univ., River Forest, IL

**2010**

*Made in Pilsen V*; **Prospectus Gallery**, Chicago  
*From the Wash*; **Antena**, Chicago  
Collective Show; **Old Town School of Folk Music**, Chicago

**2009**

Collective Show; **Casa Aztlan**, Chicago  
*Mutations*; **Douglas Park Field House**, Chicago  
*Made in Pilsen IV*; **Prospectus Gallery**, Chicago  
Peace in Pilsen Benefit Auction; **Carlos and Dominguez Fine Art Gallery**  
*End of the 80's*; **Avram Eisen Gallery**, Chicago  
*Los Artistas de la Calle 18*; **World Gym-Pilsen**, Chicago  
*One Inspired Evening-Juried Benefit*; **River East Art Center**, Chicago  
*Celebration 2009*; **Prospectus Gallery**, Chicago

**2008**

*If Artist Ran the Media*; **C33 Gallery**, 33 East Congress Ave., Chicago  
*\*Art of the Ride*: **Motoworks Chicago** - SOLO  
*Experiencing the War in Iraq*: **Machines with Magnets**, Pawtucket, Rhode Island  
*30 Years and Moving On*: **Prospectus Gallery**, Chicago  
*Made in Pilsen III*: **Prospectus Gallery**, Chicago

**2007**

Collective Show: **Colby Gallery**, Chicago  
*18th St. Pilsen Open Studios*: **GringoLandia Studio**, Chicago  
*Pass it On*: **Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art**; Chicago  
Mural Acquisition: Permanent Collection for **U.S. Embassy, Panama**  
*Made in Pilsen 2*: **Prospectus Gallery**, Chicago  
*\*Dusk to Dawn*: **Cafe Duvall**, Chicago - SOLO  
*Kigali Rwanda Benefit*: **Univ. of IL** at Chicago  
*POLVO Benefit*: 18th Street, **POLVO**, Chicago  
*Art of Teaching*: **Gallery 37 Center Space**, Chicago

**2006**

*Made in Pilsen*: **Prospectus Gallery**, Chicago  
*Chicago Art Open*: **Zhou B. Art Center**, Chicago  
*Bare Walls*: **SAIC** - 847 W. Jackson Bldg., Chicago  
*Beyond Teaching I*: **South Shore Cultural Center**, Chicago  
*Beyond Teaching II*: **Cafe Mestizo**, Chicago  
*Beyond Teaching III*: **Casa Michoacan**, Chicago  
*Greed*: **Pilsen Cultural Celebration**: Harrison Pk, Chicago  
*Opt-in*: **Chicago Music Garage**, Chicago

*The Art of Teaching: Gallery 37 - Center Space, Chicago*  
*\*Navigating the Landscape: Prospectus Gallery, Chicago – SOLO*

**2005**

*Classic Cymbals: Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra, Traveling exhibition through 2006*  
*Art for Animals Auction: Chicago Cultural/Center Tree House Animal Foundation*  
*18th St. Pilsen Open Studios: GringoLandia Studio, Chicago*  
*Hometown Video Festival: Alliance for Community Media, Monterey, California*  
*Eminent Domain: Pilsen Cultural Celebration, Harrison Park, Chicago*  
*POLVO Benefit: POLVO, Chicago*  
*Chicago Homeland Expo: McCormick Center, Chicago - SOLO*  
*Art of Teaching: Gallery 37 Center Space, Chicago*  
*Cardboard 2: Birdhouse museum installed on S. Morgan St., Chicago*

**2004**

*Chicago Art Open: Vietnam Veterans Art Museum, Chicago*  
*Artist as Terrorists 2: POLVO, 18th St, Chicago*  
*Art and War: the artists voice Aldo Castillo Gallery, Chicago*  
*War and Peace: Gallery 415, Chicago*  
*Portraits of Imagination: CCT Gallery, Chicago*  
*Barewalls: SAIC 847 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago*  
*18th St. Pilsen Open Studios: GringoLandia Studio, Chicago*  
*Tu Casa es Mi Casa: POLVO, Chicago*

**2003**

*Alas de Papel: 2000-2004 Montreal, Mexico City, Cordova, Chicago, Managua*  
*Chicago Solution Show: Gallery on Lake, Chicago*  
*Globalization Show: Hothouse Gallery, Chicago*  
*Chicago Art Open: 847 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago*  
*Art & Industry: Union Street Gallery - Chicago Heights, IL*  
*Bare Walls: SAIC-847 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago*  
*Urban edge: BAAC, Barrington, IL*  
*Visual Candy: Butcher shop, Chicago*  
*Artist as Terrorist: POLVO, Chicago*  
*The El: Hothouse Gallery, Chicago*  
*Artists against the War: Chicago Athenaeum-Museum, Schaumburg, IL.*  
*18th St. Pilsen Open Studios: Gringolandia Studio, Chicago*  
*The Art of Teaching: Gallery 37 Center Space, Chicago*

**2002**

*Udderly Suite: Chicago Historical Society - Museum*  
*Casa Michoacan auction: Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum, Chicago*  
*SPECTRUM: Chicago Athenaeum-Museum, Schaumburg, IL*  
*Sept. 11 Show: Chicago Athenaeum-Museum, Schaumburg, IL*  
*911 Show & Erotic Show: JettSett Gallery, Chicago*  
*Bare Walls: SAIC- 847 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago*  
*Chicago Art Open: 847 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago*  
*The Art of Teaching: Marwen-833 N. Orleans, Chicago*

**2001**

*Hemingway Show: Hemingway Museum, Oak Park, IL*  
*Art for Sara's Sake: Swedish American Museum, Chicago*  
*Operation Icarus: Gringolandia Studio, Open-air installation launching*  
*24th Annual Exhibition: Beverly Art Center, Chicago*

**2000**

*Chicago PingPong 2000: Pump Station Gallery-Water Tower, Chicago Public Art Program*

*Absolut Visions-art 2000:* **Gwendajay A. Gallery**, Chicago  
*The Midway Show:* **Las Manos Gallery**, Chicago  
*\*Tales from GringoLandia:* **Harry S. Truman College**, Chicago – SOLO

**1999**

*Sightings:* **Gwendajay A. Gallery**, Chicago  
*Cows on Parade:* **Hancock Tower Building** on Michigan Ave., Chicago  
*\*Original Recipe:* **Builders Bank**, Chicago

**1998**

*Chicago Art Open:* **847 W. Jackson Blvd.**, Chicago  
*Against the Nightstick:* **Casa Guatemala**, Chicago  
*Bok Guai:* **A.T. Coyote Festival**, Chicago  
*\*GringoLandia HeirLines:* **Chicago Public Library**, Chicago - SOLO  
*Collective Exhibitions:* **Las Manos Gallery**, Chicago

**1997**

*West Town Realty Scandals:* **A.T. Coyote Festival**, Chicago  
*Lost and Found:* **Gallery 7000**, Chicago

**1996**

*Americana Show:* **Imperfect Fluids Gallery**, Chicago  
*GringoLandia 22:* **A.T. Coyote Festival**, Chicago

**1994**

*Erotica Show:* **Naked "I" Gallery**, Saint Charles, IL  
*Full Box/Empty Culture:* **Process Bldg.**, 935 N. Damen, Chicago

**1993**

*Mr. Whitey's Wild Ride:* **Crux Gallery**, Chicago  
*Disco Gazebo:* **APO Bldg.**, 18th St., Chicago  
*Red Line:* **Feral Dog Gallery**, Chicago  
*New Art Examiner Auction:* **World Tattoo Gallery**, Chicago  
*Collective Show:* **LayAway Gallery**, Chicago

**1992**

*ReCycle America:* **Reicher Gallery-Barat College**-Lake Forest, IL North Pier, Illinois St.- Chicago  
*Collective Show:* **Beret International Gallery**, Chicago  
*Artist-in-Residence Show:* **Oak Park Civic Arts Council**, Oak Park, IL

**1991**

*GringoLandia II:* **North Lakeside Cultural Center**, Chicago  
*Collective Show:* **Erie Street Gallery**, Chicago

**1990**

*\*GringoLandia:* **ARC Gallery RAW SPACE**, Chicago - SOLO  
*Your Message Here:* **Randolph Street Galley**, Chicago  
*\*Terratenientes:* **Galeria Uniques**, Panama City, R.P. – SOLO

**1989**

*13th Annual Competition:* **Beverly Art Center**, Chicago  
*Prints by Illinois Artists:* **State University of New York**, Stony Brook, NY  
*Artists Define Furniture:* **ARC Gallery**, Chicago  
*Landscape/Mindscape:* **ARC Gallery**, Chicago  
*Black and White Show:* **ARC Gallery**, Chicago

**1988**

*Modern Love*: **ARC Gallery**, Chicago  
*N.A.M.E. Re-Membered*: **203 W. Lake St**, Chicago  
*Art Fun/Life Serious*: **Prairie Avenue Gallery**, Chicago  
*The Historical Moment*: **Gallery 400**, UIC, Chicago  
*15 Years 15 Walls*: **ARC Gallery**, Chicago  
*\*The Incredible Museum*: **A.M. Ward Gallery**, Chicago – SOLO

**1987**

*Hung Jury*: **NAB Gallery**, Chicago  
*Chicago Transit*: **Prairie Avenue Gallery**, Chicago  
*11th Annual Exhibition*: **Beverly Art Center**, Chicago  
*Dia de los Muertos*: **Objects Gallery**, Chicago

**1986**

*Two by Two*: **International Art Expo - Navy Pier**, Chicago

**1985**

*American Artists in Panama'*: **U.S. Embassy Residence, Panama'**  
*Subasta Pro Museo*: **Museo de Arte Contemporaneo, Panama'**

**1984**

*\*Mark Nelson '84*: **Teatro Anayansi, ATLAPA Center, Panama'**- SOLO

**1983**

*ArteGulf 83*: **Museo de Arte Contemporaneo, Panama'**

**AWARDS**

2015 Project Micheaux – Donorschoose.org  
2014 Photography Program Award – Chicago Photographic Society  
2013 Oppy Award – Oppenheimer Family Foundation  
2012-2013 Intuit Teaching Fellowship, Intuit Center, Chicago  
2008 Teacher of Distinction, Golden Apple Foundation  
2006 1st Place-Art of Teaching, Gallery 37  
2005 Honorable Mention-Hometown Video Festival  
2005 2nd Place-Art of Teaching, Gallery 37  
2003, 1991 Illinois Arts Council Fellowship  
2003 First Place Award, Barrington Area Arts Council  
2003 Academic Achievement through the Arts-CPS  
1999, 2002, 03, 04,06, 08 Chicago Foundation for Education  
1997, 96, 2001, 04, 06 Chicago Cultural Affairs CAAP  
1997 IAC Special Assistance Grant  
1993, 94, 2001,02 Chicago Cultural Affairs NAP  
1997, 99, 02, 03, 04,06,07,08 , 09,10,11,12,13, 14, 15, **16 Oppenheimer Teaching Grant**  
2001, 2002 CPS Art Enhancement Grant  
2008, 2012 Donors Choose Funded Teaching Projects

**REVIEWS and INTERVIEWS**

**10-20-19 Badass Teachers Association** – CTU Strike Artistic Representation  
**10-16-16 Vocalo Radio 91.1 FM**, Chicago - artists exchange ideas on social issues  
**10-11 Arte del Barrio -Univision**, Enrique Ortiz - Emmy Award Recipient 2012  
**10-08 1Tail.com/sa/news** - Oct 2  
**11-07 La Raza**, Chicago  
**7-07 La Prensa**, Panama'  
**5-06 Chicago Artists News**  
**6-02 ArtScope.net**  
**9-99 Sun Times**  
**4-99- Hyde Park Herald**  
**5-99 Lerner News**  
**4-93- Chicago Tribune**  
**4-93- Chicago Sun Times**  
**4-93- New Art Examiner, Chicago**  
**6-91- Chicago Reader**

**PUBLISHED and SCREENED**

2012 *Video Shorts for MNRR-NPS*, [Youtube.com/missouririvernp](http://Youtube.com/missouririvernp)  
2011 *Pancho," the art of Francisco Mendoza*, Chicago CAN TV April  
2010-2011 *Video Shorts for PEFO-NPS*, [Youtube.com/petrifiedforestnp](http://Youtube.com/petrifiedforestnp)  
2006 Chicago Artists Resource: Artist Story: Mark Nelson  
2000 *Urban Art Chicago*: Olivia Gude and Jeff Huebner, Ivan R. Dee: Publisher  
1999 *Cows on Parade in Chicago*: Neptun Art Press  
2005 *Vecinos*: Hometown Video Festival, Olympia-Washington & Monterey, California  
2004 Comcast Cable Stations (11 Chicago Suburbs, Chicago CAN TV-Ch.21,  
Meztli Cinema/Gallery; 556 W. 18th St., Chicago, POLVO; 18th ST., Chicago

**EDUCATION:**

University of Illinois at Chicago (**MFA**) 1988  
School of the Art Institute of Chicago (**BFA**) 1986  
(42 hrs Post Grad. Credits 1996-2013)  
Canal Zone College, Panama (**AA**) 1982  
Escuela Nacional de Artes Plasticas, Casco Viejo – Panama 1982-83  
Universidad Nacional de Panama', Arquitectura/Diseno Grafico 1981- 82