#### KIRA JO COULAM

# MARK BRADFORD



### A BRIEF INTRO...

Los Angeles, 1961

ABSTRACT "PAINTING", VIDEO, SCULPTURE, & PERFORMANCE ART

WILL BE REPRESENTING THE UNITED STATES AT THE **2017 VENICE BIENNALE!** 

Influences: Mother's Hair Salon, Political Conditions/Tension, etc.

Among other forms of education, Bradford also received his hairstyling license







- Inspired by Pollock & Rauschenberg but wanted to find his own voice; Hairstyling
- Wings it; "see what happens"; happy accidents; Loose



- Could connect to previous movements like Abstract Expressionism & the ongoing movement of conceptual art, but not strictly
- Found objects; ""I work when I'm sick, happy, depressed, constipated, jet-lagged. I show up. If I can't work, I go to Home Depot." ◆"If Home Depot doesn't have it, Mark Bradford doesn't need it."

#### INSTRUMENTALIST LENS



- "Whether you like it or not, it's contemporary art...and it does exactly what I [want] it to do...makes people think."
- "Coming at a moment of terrible uncertainty, Tomorrow is Another Day is a narrative of ruin, violence, agency, and possibility, a story of ambition and belief in art's capacity to engage us all in urgent and profound conversations, and even action." (2017 Venice Biennale Exhibition Catalog)

### EARLY WORK (FEATURED IN SEGMENT)



Untitled (Corner of Desire and Piety) III, 2008, "Merchant Posters" series



Stills from Practice, 2003

## EARLY WORK (FEATURED IN SEGMENT)







Featured in Los Angeles County Museum of Art

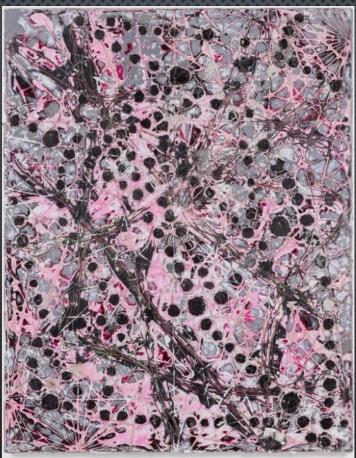
### EARLY WORK (NOT FEATURED IN SEGMENT)



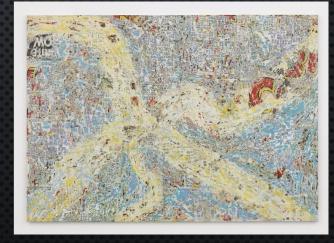
Miss China Silk, 2005

### RECENT WORK









Clockwise from left: *Dead Hummingbird* from "Scorched Earth" exhibition 2015, *Untitled Pink* (SFMOMA Benefit) 2016, *Untitled* 2012, *The Rabbit Didn't Care* 2013

### RECENT WORK



Waterfall detail, 2015



The Once and Future King for Parkett S9, 2011

#### REFERENCES

- http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/06/22/what-else-can-art-do
- <a href="http://www.markbradfordvenice2017.org/exhibition/">http://www.markbradfordvenice2017.org/exhibition/</a>
- <a href="https://www.artsy.net/artist/mark-bradford/works">https://www.artsy.net/artist/mark-bradford/works</a>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark Bradford
- https://hammer.ucla.edu/exhibitions/2015/mark-bradford-scorched-earth/