

CHAFF

University of Oregon
Department of Art
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CHAFF (Not jokes)

Artist Statement

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This document is the continuation of a process of making. It is not a description of that process, but exists actively within it. You hold in your hands a physical collection of ideas, created in tandem with three-dimensional objects.

Not Jokes

1 There is a very particular type of person who wears a hard hat that is shaped like a cowboy hat. I have met this person, but never while they were wearing it.

2 Everything can be a nipple. And nipples are funny. Especially blue ones, they're kinda like a purple nipple, but some time has passed in your pubertal life since some douche named Brad, who is probably wearing shoulder pads, grabs your nips in 9th grade P.E. class, so the coloration has faded a bit.

3 Little cocktail umbrellas are a hot item. You know you want them, you don't know why but you do. Its like golf balls, or model railroad people. If they are there, you're gonna take one(or four) just in case. Why the hell are they made of paper anyways, I mean I know WHY they are made of paper, but I don't get it.

4 I want to have a fake-stuff bake-sale.

5 Because who doesn't want the top of a giant Christmas ball thingy that your asshole cat rips down and leaves for you to step on when your trying to fill your dads stocking with slim jims because you didn't know what else to get him.

6 I never realized how much I really like those colored plastic thumbtacks. Target sells these ones that have a cool shape but the colors are shit. " You gotta get those primary colors in your life some how." – The coward Jack McCall

7 It's that one thing that you find when you're looking for something else but you hold on to it anyways, just in case. But you never quite figure out what it's used for. And it's in the shape of a worm or penis or something.

8 A person should always have a large assortment of circle things of different sizes so that they can draw perfect circles in different sizes.

9 If you unpack a life preserver, its really just the same stuff you'd find in the box when you buy your first microwave from Walmart, but its meant to save your life instead of keeping your microwave from breaking, before it becomes your microwave.

10 (.)(.) lol.

11 Orange is just one of those colors, that you cut the head off a toy elephant and stick and orange spike on its now headless body and it works. I like orange.

12 In the yellow corner, Tinfoil asteroids "Bombard" Oslovar, with a fighting record of zero wins, 27 ½ loses.

13 Have you ever seen a zipper being sexy and promiscuous? I have, and let me tell you, it was a sight to be seen.

14 Hot glue, when combined with plastic, establishes one of the most secure yet forgiving methods of construction in the known universe. I'd build a whole house with it, but I would definitely use the glittery kind.

15 I was always really bad at basketball. When I was young I would wear BIKE brand spandex shorts while playing because I thought I looked cool. I was an idiot with freckles.

16 Dome shape + pointy cone-ish shape = n

17 I have three different types of laundry in my house. The first is laundry that is clean, though it remains in the purgatory of being draped over a chair. The second is the dirty laundry that inhabits the floor. The clean laundry can also exist on the floor if it has managed to slip from purgatory into the realm of reincarnation so be again rewashed and returned to chair purgatory. The third is the clothes I never wear, or forgot even existed, that laundry hangs in the closet.

18 Why do teenage girls go so ape-shit over vampires? I mean their teeth don't glow in the dark, and they probably smell like axe body spray or some odd combination of Dorritos and a sweaty high school wrestler.

19 Almost only counts in horseshoes and hand grenades. I've never thrown either so I have no fucking clue what those cowboy yokels are talking about.

20 That one skit in Saturday Night Live, where Will Ferrell is Alex Trebek in Jeopardy and Sean Connery is an asshole that can't read.

21 I have an alter ego and my name is Pacer Stacktrain. Pacer's my name and ice cream's my game. It's the name of some cargo company. I usually only come out when I'm camping or when being a white trash shithead is the only appropriate mode of getting a sentence across. I made some art. I made a video of me playing a ukulele that is simultaneously humping a door jam.

22 Art supply stores are great places to get materials if you aren't making work about farting in glass houses.

23 "Dayyyyyyyyyum. Dat bucket doe! Gold fringe on top." (what does that actually mean in real life?) Also I used this bucket when my sink backed up full of nasty black water. It's historical.

24 Has a Chinese lantern ever given you a weird fuzzy feeling in your pants?

25 My favorite chip in the whole world is Ruffles. If I could make a flag in honor of ruffles I would, but to use the image of Ruffles would tarnish its salty glory, so I will remand my flag to chip bowls.

26 I've always felt that those big beach lounge chairs were super bourgeoisie, maybe because this dude in Cancun wouldn't let my cousins and I borrow some

firewood, so we threw his chairs in the ocean on new years eve. I also stubbed my toe on some coral.

27 My roommate Patrick was a finish carpenter, we bought a tiny sailboat together, that he named it after his girlfriend. I think I wanted to paint it green. On Labor Day I saw him flip it and I was wearing a sailor hat and cooking bratwurst on the beach. Sailing is hard.

28 Almost every woman in my life has a serious and troublesome addiction to whipped cream.

29 I've only been inside a casino on two occasions. The first I won one hundred dollars playing blackjack, and remember watching Anchorman on the way back on a portable DVD player. The second time was because I had food poisoning.

30 This is not a stack of diapers covered in macaroni and cheese. It is a stack of foam that looks like a stack of diapers, wrapped in duct tape that looks like macaroni and cheese.

31 My favorite cafeteria meal when I lived in Minnesota was buttered pasta day. I often think about those triangular paper cups that fit into the plastic holders and wonder if those things are still around. I liked filling mine with 2% milk.

32 I'm so glad I never worked at a Cold Stone Creamery. I hate that place.

33 Now this would be perfect for my bake sale. I want you all to be happy, that's all I care about. Be happy and have a plastic cookie.

34 The perfect burrito is not determined by what is inside, but by the size and the way it is wrapped.

35 When you really think about it, there are a lot of things other than organisms that go extinct. How come nobody posts pictures of kitschy old beach furniture to raise awareness for the extinction of a particular type of relaxation tool.

36 When I was in the 4th grade I played the trumpet. I think I probably still could but I haven't ever been around another trumpet to try. My favorite song was Chariots of Fire.

37 My dad was in the Navy for 26 years.

38 A large selection of whales have baleen instead of teeth. I like to imagine whales with furry insides because mammals are supposed to have hair or fur right?

39 Of all the sports that I have played, Patrick can always beat me in any sport involving a small white ball. We made custom Ping-Pong paddles and he would always win. When we would go for our weekly golfing trip at Sail Ho Executive 9-hole golf course in Point Loma, California, he would win too. I think I'm stronger than him now though. I haven't played golf since.

40 There are some kids toys that even I can't figure out, and I've spend a considerable amount of my life being a kid.

41 Everyone should make a piece of white art. And then put it on a white wall. It always looks sweet.

42 Tongue piercings seem weird.

43 I always cheat when I'm the banker in monopoly. It's a cruel world.

44 Pure Butt

45 Laundry is probably one of the most common problems that Americans suffer from today. Clean, dirty, It's a vicious cycle.

46 There is a weird Russian guy named Bebzdevusmhkiu who follows me on Instagram. I have no idea who he his. This one's for you.

47 I have come to realize that students are far more afraid of sewing machines then they are of any tool in a woodshop. My only conclusion is that they are far more afraid of being a shirt, than losing their hand.

48 I had a pool in my back yard when I was growing up. My Twin and I would fight each other in the water. We used to put on the connectors to those foam pool noodles and use them as boxing gloves, scratchy, chaffing boxing gloves. I always tried to hit his face.

49 Children shouldn't have plastic tools. They should have real tools. Plastic shovels are worthless.

50 Lemon juice containers are a collector's item.

51 I have always been attracted to inflatable things. An inflatable object can be many things. It can be a latex glove, or a hat. It can be a human receiving CPR or it can be a blue triangle with grommets and plastic hangers attached to it.

52 Never trust a clock.

53 Part time water buffalo

54 My Brother used to be deathly afraid of clouds when we lived in central Minnesota. He knew every type of cloud: Cirrus, Cirrostratus, Cirrocumulus, Altostratus, Altopcumulus, Nimbostratus, Cumulus, Stratus, Cumulonimbus, Stratocumulus. Know thy enemy. Personally, I would be more afraid of a hammerhead shark ripping my guts out.

55 Quick Wit

56 I am always surprised by the amount of people I know that own waffle makers.

57 My friend Paul and I built an attic in our tree house to store our stockpile of toy guns. It had a trap door and everything. We used to eat potato chips we stole out of our pantries up there. My parents are just now finding out.

58 If you've ever set a large Windsor dining chair upside-down on the ground and then climbed into the cockpit you have created, you'll know what I'm talking about.

59 *"An intimate exploration of the prowess of Russian construction techniques"* – Bob Villa

60 My parents never let me have a dirt bike. My mom said she saw too many motorcyclists' brains working in a hospital emergency room. I still rode by bike off jumps and stuff though and I never died.

61 I'm going to start an artist run gallery space called Tropical. It's going to be beach themed.

62 2.6 GPA

63 Everyone should know at least one helicopter pilot.

64 Hardwood has nothing to do with how hard the wood is.

65 Oregon hot dog stand

66 My favorite dinosaur is the Pachycephalosaurus. None of these are that dinosaur.

67 I don't use headphones; I use earplugs, because I value my hearing.

68 This inflatable toy came in a two pack. Its twin must have been adopted.

69 Docking Bay 94

70 I've always had anxiety. I didn't always know what it was called but I have always had it. When I was little I would curl up and hide under the ataman for hours until I heard my family looking for me and I would come out. In ninth grade I threw up my breakfast of Berry Berry Kix behind my English classroom 219 because I was so afraid of going to school. I didn't know what anxiety was until a balding psychologist in suspenders and cufflinks told me I was.

71 My least favorite food is toothpaste.

72 Everyday I feel like I own less and less eating utensils.

73 We've really fucked this place up.

74 As the doors opened I saw out of the corner of my eye, the majesty of plastic, I knew at that moment that it must be mine. I ran, dodging retirees and small children, drawing ever nearer to gaze upon its greatness and at last we were together.

- 75 June 4th, 2005. The last day I saw an overhead projector.
- 76 I'm pretty sure that whole thing about dogs pooping according to the earth's magnetic field is just a bunch of crap. Some one made that up so they had something to keep them from making eye contact mid deuce.
- 77 My main hobby is the detailed construction of plastic 1:72 scale World War Two military aircraft. I really enjoy putting little seat belts in the cockpits.
- 78 This life jacket won't work. It's filled with teddy bear stuffing.
- 79 Sexy fishnet Ping-Pong ball.
- 80 Basketbra-lls
- 81 Life's tough, but its tougher if you're stupid. – John Wayne
- 82 Half an egg, one-third an elephant.
- 83 The valedictorian of my high school rode a razor scooter and had the largest backpack I have ever seen.
- 84 When a snowmobile rides across your snow-covered lawn in early spring, it usually rips up your grass too.
- 85 I have never put anything metal into an electrical socket that wasn't supposed to be there in the first place. I don't understand that trope. My parents gave me a whole box of unpowered electrical and computer components to play with and a big box of keys. I grew up in a house with an unfinished basement.
- 86 Up-the-butt-nut-hut. Over-the-shoulder-boulder-holder. Banana-hammock.
- 87 An ill proportioned mini skirt.
- 89 I've never met a cat that I didn't get along with. Maybe they were just being polite.
- 90 Friday's starting at 6:30-7ish is Carcassonne time. Sometimes. My game directions don't say "Meeple".
- 91 I made my first carrot cake this last thanksgiving. It was one of my proudest moments.
- 92 My heat pack smells like popcorn
- 93 My Twin had a corn snake named Freddie. He was orange and red. When he was a baby my Twin would have to microwave his pinky mice so that Freddie could eat them. I think he made one explode in the microwave on accident. My dad took him on an airplane in his shirt pocket. He got pretty big after that. My Twin sold him to the L&L Reptile in Oceanside, California for eleven dollars.

- 94 Shelby Meyers gave me these cool plastic pipet holders. Thanks.
- 95 Still haven't played golf.
- 96 "Keep your chin up" – Uncle "Keep your chin down" – My dad right before knocking me down while boxing in the garage.
- 97 Historical Plaque found in Paris, France.
- 98 There was a period in time when my mom was trying to get our family to eat tofu. She made tofu burritos one time. I think it was the saddest I've seen my father. I mean, I could excuse myself from the table, but he was obligated by a piece of paper he sign March 20, 1982 to eat that whole damn burrito or he would be put to death.
- 99 I have killed every plant I own by watering it too much. I just got so much love to give.
- 100 I will usually only eat eggs if someone else has cooked them for me.
- 101 Black eyes hurt, Blue eyes flirt.
- 102 My dad won an ice fishing trip in a silent church auction at Hope Covenant Evangelical Church in Saint Cloud, Minnesota. My Twin and my Brother and I just played in the snow while my dad caught a walleye.
- 103 Covet and shimmer.
- 104 Green Chinese Trousers, waist size 34
- 105 I am really attracted to molded and specialized packing foam because I am always so curious about the object it was created to protect.
- 106 On Matthew Quackenbush's 21st birthday we all went to a Padres baseball game. I threw an ice cream cone off the upper deck to the mezzanine below.
- 107 Deadliest Catch by Bon Jovi
- 108 I learned to swim at Bubbles Swim School, in the pool at Allied Gardens park.
- 109 I don't think anyone has successfully played a full game of Mouse Trap.
- 110 Miniature Sword
- 111 In seventh grade I built a castle out of sugar cubes. In eighth grade I designed a Normandy board game using army men.
- 112 Orange Picket Fence

- 113 Beheaded duck sliding down a truncated slide on an upside-down toy cup.
- 114 Crown of _____!
- 115 This one is pretty.
- 116 Blunderbuss
- 117 There's a new sheriff in town.
- 118 I watched Power Rangers religiously. I grew increasingly despondent that these superheroes never lost a single battle. There was one episode where I really thought that they were about to be defeated. They ended up winning and I never watched Power Rangers again. They also didn't show the Green Ranger enough.
- 119 Polka Chop Saw
- 120 I traded a can of red spray paint for this red In-n-Out Burger tray.
- 121 The Surfers and the Mexicans would fight each other at the tennis courts after school.
- 122 The mirror is, after all, a utopia, since it is a placeless place. In the mirror, I see myself there where I am not, in an unreal, virtual space that opens up behind the surface; I am over there, there where I am not, a sort of shadow that gives my own visibility to myself, that enables me to see myself there where I am absent: such is the utopia of the mirror. But it is also a heterotopia in so far as the mirror does exist in reality, where it exerts a sort of counteraction on the position that I occupy. From the standpoint of the mirror I discover my absence from the place where I am since I see myself over there. – Michel Foucault
- 123 Dan Marino posted a 147-93 record as a starting quarterback in 17 seasons with the Miami Dolphins, but never won a Super Bowl. Then he got fat.
- 124 Mind Games
- 125 A former roommate, Austen Hesselling drew penises all over my exercise ball with black permanent marker
- 126 There are times that you know almost everything about an object, what it looks like, its color, what it is used for, but not knowing what it is called will foil your internet search.
- 127 There is also a secret unmarked bathroom in Lawrence Hall at the University of Oregon.
- 128 A roller-skating Illuminati that will never lose their keys.
- 129 At the Jelly Belly Factory there is a portrait of President Ronald Reagan made out of jellybeans.

130 An Uruk Hai says my favorite movie quote. Uruk 1 “What do you smell?” Uruk 2 “Man flesh!!! They’ve picked up our trail!”

131 When I ran a half marathon, I got the worst chafing in my crotch. The race volunteers were handing out tongue depressors with petroleum jelly on them. I instead grabbed a handful of goop from the jar and finished the race.

132 When I played baseball I was hit by 13 pitches in one season. My parents would never buy me the super pack of team photos that included a baseball card of me. This is one of the many reasons I am uninterested in baseball.

133 My cat Howard humps towels when he is lonely. I like to imagine he was fired from his job at Petsmart for being written up too many times for sexually harassing the fish.

134 A group of stickers from the Millrace 3 building, men’s toilet stall. I would always look at them while pooping.

135 They should teach personal finance in high school

136 I really enjoy eating pork.

137 I used to brag about having really good vision.

138 Engineers?

139 I don’t understand people who do not know how to swim.

140 Your ~~is truly~~, Mom

141 I am allergic to latex.

142 Don’t try to take a stereo amplifier through TSA airport security packed in a “custom” cardboard box wrapped in beach towels. The chances of you running to catch your flight will increase exponentially.

143 My favorite computer game on floppy disk was Math Blasters.

144 Allstar individual cake box.

145 Science.

146 Cooties is a fictional childhood disease used in the United States of America and Canada as a rejection term and an infection tag game. The phrase is most commonly used by children aged 4–10; however, it may be used by children older than 10 in a cruel, sassy, or playful way.

147 A hot air balloon should not be your main mode of transportation if you have meetings to get to.

148 The respiratory system is the best system.

149 Trapper Keeper wannabe

150 May the _____ bless you and keep you.

Statement

My current and continuing practice involves an investigation and exploration of multiplicity and iterations of thingamabobs¹. This process involves at its core, the intuitive and athletic construction of things from plastic material. Plastic operates both as a material as well as a method in which I make. It is a material whose life span matches its infinite mobility as a raw material. From found plastics, these things are created through a rapid unedited process forming a massive accumulation of colorful wall mounted trophies. Creating humorous idioms and contradictions between materials with varying degrees of cultural context; raw colored plastic is combined with manufactured toys, food storage containers, office supplies and sports memorabilia. Through this collaging of both constructed and found objects, I am able to create a language of visual puns, idioms that do not translate to any language. These things then proceed through a process of continued exaltation and normalization by the creation of multiple iterations of the same things. The things themselves, images, image-objects, catalogues, signed purchase agreements, written documents, and three dimensional scanning become evidence of process.

¹ thingamabob- Noun. [**thing-uh-muh-bob**] . A person or thing the name of which is unknown, temporarily forgotten or deliberately overlooked

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Image list

- 1 *Sister Sister*, 2014, archival photo print, modge podge, permanent marker
- 2 *Nicodemis*, 2014, basalt boulder, aid iron, cordelette, double fishermans knot, bolt hanger, stainless steel bolt
- 3 *Aye Papi!*, 2014, silk mens underwear, mdf, wood
- 4 *Untitled*, 2014, upholstery foam, osb plywood, steel, waterproof fabric, rubber dip, grommets
- 5 *Power Clean*, 2014, construction hardhats, steel, concrete
- 6 *Bruce Willis in a hot tub*, 2014, laundry basket, basketball hoop, cowboy construction helmet, plastic golf ball basket, martini swords
- 7 *Used Car Lot*, 2014 pennant flags, astroturf, wood
- 8 *Untitled CHAFF*, 2015, plastic
- 9 *Untitled CHAFF*, 2015, plastic
- 10 *Untitled CHAFF*, 2015, plastic
- 11 *Untitled CHAFF*, 2015, plastic
- 12 *Untitled CHAFF*, 2015, plastic
- 13 *CHAFF Art Book*, 2015, 130 full color plates
- 14 *One...two...three...D*, 2015, photographic prints of 3D capture image
- 15 *Two Thousand and Two*, 2015, Mixed Collage
- 16 *CHAFF*, 2015, installation
- 17 *CHAFF*, 2015, installation
- 18 *CHAFF*, 2015, installation(detail)
- 19 *For Patrick Gilbert*, 2015, Flourescent coffer light, mdf, plastic buckets
- 20 *The Grassy Knoll*, 2015, luxury turf, Realtree 5 gal. bucket, styrofoam chair, spray paint

ⁱ thingamabob- Noun. [**thing-uh-muh**-bob] . A person or thing the name of which is unknown,