

RAWVISION

W E E K L Y

April 28 2023 #318

GALERIE GUGGING:

Colour Splash

Vienna

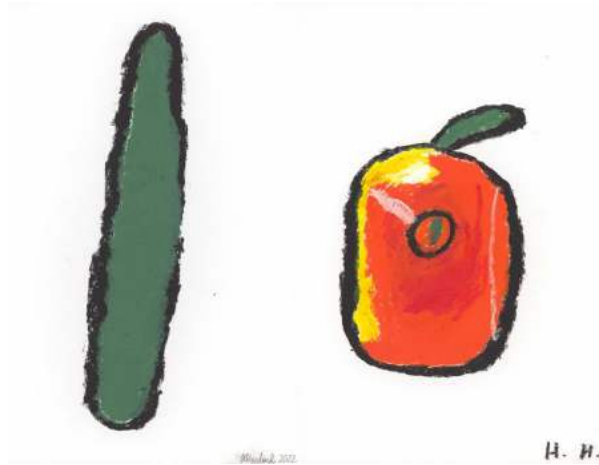
April 26 – June 28, 2023

Three artists are the focus of [Galerie Gugging Vienna](#)'s new exhibition *Colour Splash*: Basel Al-Bazzaz, Helmut Hladisch and Karl Vondal.



Basel Al-Bazzaz, *Ram in the Snow*, 2020. Pencil, coloured pencils on paper, 42 x 56 cm

Basel Al-Bazzaz, an artist born in Baghdad, Iraq, works in a social therapy print workshop. He predominantly creates fine, detailed works with small ornaments here and there in watercolours, pencil and coloured pencils.



Helmut Hladisch, *Cucumber and Peach*, both 2022.
Oil crayons on paper, 42.0 x 29.7 cm

Helmut Hladisch, who has lived in the Gugging House of Artists since 2013, draws from memory and depicts everyday objects or other familiar things from his surroundings in his own distinctive style.



Karl Vondal, *Australia*, 2023. Mixed media
on paper, 70 x 100 cm

Karl Vondal, who has lived and worked in the Gugging House of Artists since 2002, has a particular predilection for erotic depictions, which he repeatedly weaves texts around. His oeuvre is dominated by large-format, collage-like works on paper, created with pencil, coloured pencils and Indian ink in pastel colours.

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY RELIGIOUS ART:

Cuentos Nuevomexicanos

St. Louis

March 19 – May 21, 2023



Video: Brandon Maldonado - A New Contemporary Santero

Currently on view at the [Museum of Contemporary Religious Art \(MOCRA\)](#), St. Louis, the exhibition *Cuentos Nuevomexicanos* features works by [Brandon Maldonado Vallejos](#) that explore the unique visual language of the early 19th Century saint makers of New Mexico.





Brandon Maldonado, *Inferno*, 2021. Mixed media in panel (ink & oil), 15 x 11 in. (38.1 x 27.4 cm)

A self-taught artist, Maldonado believes that art serves merely as a means to express an idea; the ideas brought forth from philosophy and religion have always been the realm of the muse for artists since the earliest cave paintings to the stained glass painted cathedrals.



Brandon Maldonado, *Birth of the Mexican* #2, 2022. Mixed media on panel (ink & oil), 36 x 30 in. (91.5 x 76.2 cm)

Historical artists such as Jose Rafael Aragon disregarded academic tendencies in favour of a unique visual language of abstraction which deconstructs the imagery in true outsider sensibility.

LSU MUSEUM OF ART:
I, Too, Am Thornton Dial

Louisiana
March 30 – July 2, 2023

The exhibition [*I, Too, Am Thornton Dial*](#) provides a thorough overview of work by the pivotal vernacular artist, including over seventy drawings, sculptures, paintings, and assemblages drawn from private and family collections.



Thornton Dial, 2007, Alabama. Photo: Jerry Siegel

Dial was born in 1928 to a sharecropping family in rural Alabama. His life was interwoven with poverty and tumultuous experience, having lived in the deep South through the Great Depression, Jim Crow segregation, and the Civil Rights movement.





Thornton Dial, *Changes of the Moon*, 2003. Found objects and painted canvas on wood. Private collection. ©2023 Estate of Thornton Dial / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.

After dropping out of school at age twelve and working a series of odd jobs, Dial found steady employment at the Pullman Standard Plant in Bessemer, Alabama. There he honed his skills at construction and metal work, laying a foundation for his artistic endeavours.



Thornton Dial, *The County*, 1995. Mixed media. Collection of Brett and Lester Levy, Jr., Dallas,

Texas. Photo by Olya Vysotskaya. © 2023 Estate of Thornton Dial / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.

Dial began creating early-on, finding bits of odd scrap and debris, putting it together to make interesting forms that would decorate his home and yard. When the plant shut down in 1981, Dial devoted his time to creating artwork. He drew inspiration from his life experiences, blending complex themes like Civil Rights, race, class, and family into sophisticated arrangements crafted with found objects; everything from bones, wood, toys, metal, and clothing.



Shot from the [interactive virtual tour of Thornton Dial's studio](#) created by The Institute for the Visual Arts, University of Alabama at Birmingham

A [panel discussion](#) will be held on May 11, 2023, at 6 pm (CDT). It is free to attend. On the panel are: Paul Barrett, curator; Richard Dial, artist and son of Thornton Dial; Paul Arnett, art historian; Anne Collins Smith, cultural curator and art historian; and Michelle Schulte, senior curator and director of programs at the LSU Museum of Art.

Thornton Dial was featured in *Raw Vision* issues [#43](#), [#55](#) and [#74](#).

**CAVIN-MORRIS GALLERY /
CZECH CENTER:**

*Escaping Reality: Art Brut from
Czechia*

New York

April 27 – June 16, 2023

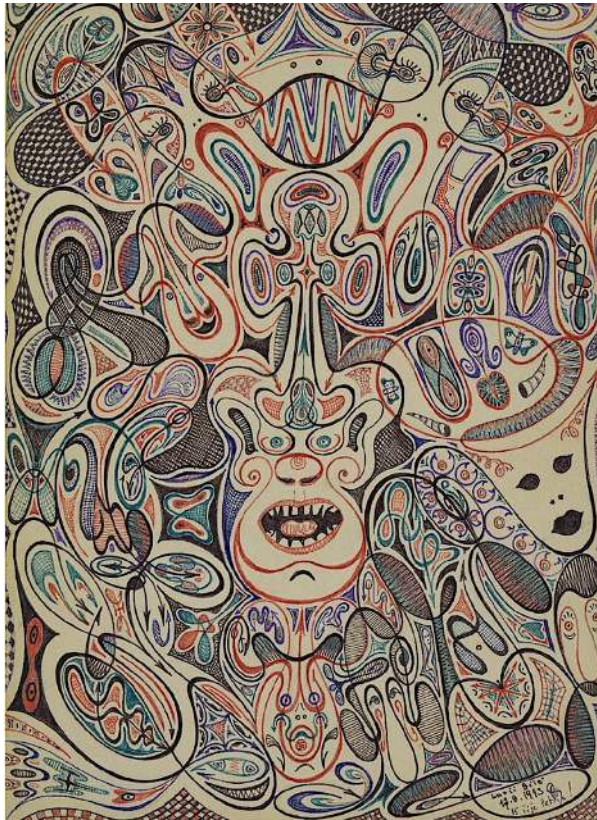
[Czech Center New York](#) in collaboration
with [Cavin-Morris Gallery](#) present an
exhibition focused on Czech *art brut*,
curated by Terezie Zemánková and Natálie
Drtinová from the Czech ABCD association.



Anna Zemánková, courtesy Cavin-Morris Gallery

The exhibition will feature some of the most striking *art brut* artists from the 20th century, like the creator of imaginative flowers Anna Zemánková and the spiritualist medium F. J. Pecka.





František Dymáček, courtesy Cavin-Morris Gallery

Also on show are works by contemporary self-taught artists like the “megapolis architect” Ota Prouza, who travels through his art from the insides of the psychiatric institution where he lives.





František Jaroslav Pecka, courtesy Cavin-Morris Gallery

Raw Vision [issue #52](#) featured an article on Czech art brut, and [issue #14](#) featured Anna Zemánková, whose work appears in this exhibition.

BACK ISSUE HIGHLIGHT:

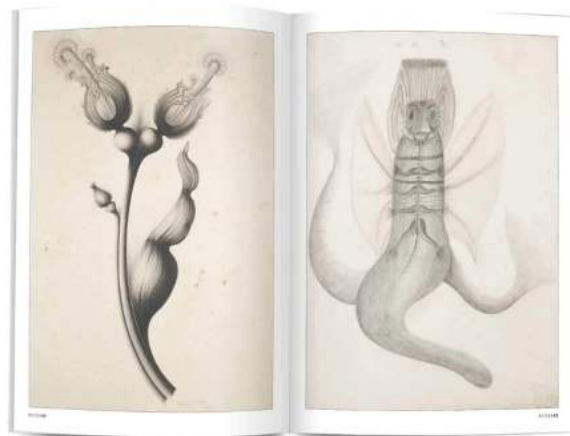
Raw Vision #52



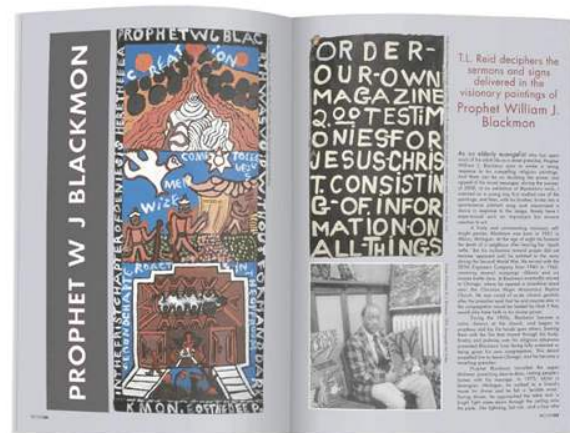
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[SEE ISSUE #52](#)

This issue, published in 2005, has an article dedicated to exploring [Czech art brut](#).



It also features Finnish artist [Viljo Gustafsson](#), Croatian artist [Ivan Rabuzin](#), an Arizona art environment created by [Grover Cleveland Thompson](#), evangelist street preacher [Prophet William J Blackmon](#) and Austrian outsider studio [Kunst & Kultur](#).





SEE ISSUE #52

RAW VISION ISSUE #114: OUT NOW!

FEATURING:

- Moses Ogden
- Carlos García Huergo
- Clyde Jones
- Mark Bourne
- Alaye Kene Atô
- Jean-Michel Chesné
- Curtis Fairley
- Morris Hirshfield
- Anonymous fetish art from Berlin

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