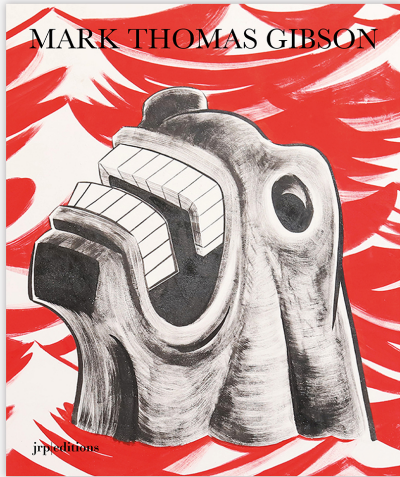


MARK THOMAS GIBSON

DARKNESS CASTS ITS OWN FORM OF LIGHT



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DESCRIPTION

Mark Thomas Gibson (b. 1980, Miami; lives in Philadelphia) is an artist whose work draws on his passion for art, comics, and political history, alongside his expertise in printmaking and painting. His multifaceted perspective as an artist, professor, curator, and history enthusiast shapes his lens on American culture, particularly its tendency to mythologize itself.

Gibson explores contemporary culture through painting, drawing, printmaking, and sculpture, revisiting pivotal moments in American history while implicating viewers as potential participants in the unfolding narrative. As he explains, “I am constantly reminded in every news cycle that we are entwined in a history of unfinished stories and plot points.” With a deep desire to uncover what lies beneath the surface, both in his artistic process and subject matter, Gibson reinterprets the traditions of History Painting and caricature in the 21st century, from Honoré Daumier, John Singleton Copley, Jacob Lawrence, Philip Guston, and Leon Golub, to Manifest Destiny and the Biden era. “The artwork must act as a Trojan horse. It’s the only way I know to get toward something deeper. It’s basic magic, sleight of hand—giving one thing while preparing to show another,” he notes.

This first reference monograph spans the artist’s work from 2016 to the present and stems from Gibson’s exhibition

Overture at the Philip and Muriel Berman Museum of Art (Collegeville, PA, 2025). It brings together contributions by Dan Nadel, Curator at the Whitney Museum (New York), offering an overview on the artist's work; fellow Miami-born artist Didier William and artist Rochelle Feinstein examining Gibson's emblematic *Town Crier* series (since 2021); and an interview with Lauren M. McCardel, Executive Director of the Berman Museum of Art.

Gibson received his BFA from The Cooper Union in 2002 and his MFA from Yale University School of Art in 2013. He is currently an Assistant Professor in Art & Design at Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University. Recent solo exhibitions include *Here Ye, Hear Ye!!!*, Lewis Center for the Arts, Princeton University, Princeton (2022); *Whirlygig!*, Sikkema & Jenkins Co., New York, and *A Retelling*, MOCAD, Detroit (both 2023); and *The Banner Project*, MFA Boston (2025–2026). His work was included in *Rising Sun: Artists in an Uncertain America*, African American Museum in Philadelphia (2023). In 2016, Gibson co-curated, with artist William Villalongo, the exhibition *Black Pulp!* at 32 Edgewood Gallery, Yale School of Art, which examined evolving perspectives of Black identity in American culture and history from 1912 to 2016 through printed media and artworks. In 2022, he was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship from the Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, New York.