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Jonathan David Brilliant
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Born in 1976 Charleston, SC

Education

- 2007 **M.F.A.**, Spatial Arts, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA
2002 **B.A.**, Studio Art; minor Art History, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC

Awards and Residencies

- 2011 **Pollock Krasner Foundation Individual Artist Grant**
2011 **South Carolina Arts Commission Visual Arts Fellow**
2011 **Artist in Residence**, Visual Arts Center of Richmond
2011 **Visiting Artist**, Kendall College of Art and Design
2011 **Visiting Artist**, Winthrop University
2011 **Visiting Artist**, Georgia College State University
2010 **Artist in Residence**, McColl Center For Visual Art
2010 **Visiting Artist**, Henderson State University
2010 **Visiting Artist**, Ouachita Baptist University
2009 **Artist in Residence**, East/West Project, Berlin Germany
2009 **Visiting Artist**, University of Memphis
2009 **Visiting Artist**, University of Oklahoma
2009 **Juror's Award**, National Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition, North Charleston, SC
2008 **Winner Bridge art fair Miami/Myartspace.com emerging artist prize**
2008 **Visiting Artist**, South Carolina State University
2007 **Joan Mitchell Foundation full fellowship award**, sculpture residency, Vermont Studio Center
2007 **Artist in Residence**, Accessibility residency program, Sumter County Gallery of Art
2007 **Artist in Residence**, Ox-Bow School of Art
2006 **Artist in Residence**, Redux Contemporary Art Center
2004-06 **Auvil Graduate Assistantship**, printmaking, San Jose State University
2003 **Partial Fellowship**, Penland School of Crafts

Solo and Two Person Exhibitions (* indicates site-specific installation)

- 2012 **Fine Lines, Found Textures, and First Impressions**, Columbia College, Columbia, SC*
2011 **Stick, Stack, Show**, Visual Arts Center of Richmond, Richmond, VA*
First Impressions (works on paper), The Warehouse, Greenville, SC
Have Sticks Will Travel @Artprize, Kendall College of Art and Design, Grand Rapids, MI*
Field of Good Fortune, outdoor installation, Columbia Museum of Art Design League, Columbia, SC*
Two Rooms, Georgia College State University, Milledgeville, GA*
2010 **ZipStir**, McColl Center, Charlotte North Carolina*
Mas Alla de Las Palabres, Galeria Pez Gordo, San Jose Del Cabo, BCS, Mexico*

- Have Sticks Will Travel World Tour**, 18Rabbit Gallery, Ft Lauderdale FL*
- The Arkadelphia Piece**, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, AR*
- Sticks, Straws, Sleeves and Lids**, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC*
- 2009 **Reconstruction**, Dam Stuhltrager gallery, Berlin Germany*
- Have Sticks Will Travel**, Jones Alumni Gallery, University of Memphis, Memphis, TN*
- Have Sticks Will Travel**, Lightwell Gallery, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK*
- 2008 **Weaving Stir Sticks around A Column**, F.A.B. gallery S.C. State University, Orangeburg, SC*
- The Goldsworthy of the Coffee Shop**, Dam Stuhltrager Gallery, Brooklyn, NY*
- 2007 **Rust Never Sleeps**, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC
- 2006 **Abandon All Hope Ye' Who Enter Here (Thesis Exhibition)**, Gallery 3, San Jose, CA*
- The Goldsworthy of The Coffee Shop**, Redux Contemporary art center, Charleston, SC*
- The Crushed Piece**, The White Gallery, San Jose, CA

Selected Group Exhibitions(* indicates site-specific installation)

- 2011 **HeART Attack**, Eye Level Art, Charleston, SC
- Air-Travel**, Corridor 2122, Fresno CA
- Greenlight III**, Bank of America Plaza, Charlotte, NC
- 2010-2012 **Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition**, University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA
- 2010 **Bumbershoot Festival**, Seattle Center, Seattle, WA*
- Black Vs. White**, Robert Lange Studios, Charleston SC
- Eternal Return**, NurtureArt, Brooklyn, NY*
- 2009 **National Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition**, River Front Park, North Charleston, SC
- 12:LightBack**, Plum Elements, Charleston, SC
- THINGS, (Curated by:Jonathan Brilliant)** Eye Level Art 103 Spring, Charleston, SC
- Past Presence**, Redux Contemporary Art Center, Charleston, SC
- Contemporary Charleston 2009:Revelation of Process**, City Gallery, Charleston, SC*
- 2008 **Bridge Art Fair Miami**, Catalina Hotel, Miami FL
- 2007 **Wish You Were Here: Work by Ox-Bow Artists in Residence**, Holland, MI
- Accessibility:(Sustainability)** Sumter Gallery of Art, Sumter, SC*
- Reorientation**, Redux Contemporary Art Center, Charleston, SC
- Paper Cuts 3**, The Fetterly Gallery, Vallejo, CA
- Lift Off**, San Jose Institute of Contemporary art, San Jose, CA
- Group Show**, Tesuque Village Market, Santa Fe, NM
- Re-cre-art**, Lisa Coscino Gallery, Sand City, CA
- 2005 **Fresh Strokes**, Heritage Arts Collaborative, San Jose, CA
- The Floating**, Piccolo Spoleto Festival, Charleston SC
- 2004 **Submerged**, Piccolo Spoleto Festival, Charleston SC
- 2003 **Submerging Art**, Outdoor installation, South Carolina Aquarium*

Selected Bibliography

- Moore, Thad. "Cookie Fortunes Decorate Columbia Street Corner", *The Daily Gamecock*, June 1, 2011
- Taylor, Otis. "Cookie Messages Grow into Public Art", *The State*, May 19, 2011
- WLTX-TV, CBS affiliate Columbia SC, "Giant Fortune Cookie Messages Invade Columbia" Feature story, May 18, 2011
- Renn, Caitlin, "A 'Brilliant' Installment", *The Colonade*, January 27, 2011
- Greenlight III**, Exhibition Brochure, 2011
- WIS-TV, NBC affiliate Columbia SC "Artist Hopes to Bring Good Fortune" Feature story, September 28, 2010
- Upchurch, Michael. "Bumbershoot Opening Day". *The Seattle Times*, September 4, 2010
- Miller, Brian. "Bumbershoot Visual Arts Preview". *Seattle Weekly*, September 3, 2010
- KPLU, Seattle NPR affiliate, "The 40th Bumbershoot is as Eclectic as Ever", September 3, 2010
- Delcambre, Dave, "Fantasticks". *North Carolina ArtSee Magazine*, September, 2010
- Mastis, Vikki, "Sculpture Artist has Fitting Last Name". *Charleston Scene*, August 5, 2010
- Furbush, Gael, "Jonathan Brilliant". *Blu Magazine*, July 2010
- McLeod, Harriet, "Creative Jolt". *Charleston Magazine*, May 2010
- "Gringo Gazette TV." English Language news service, BCS Mexico, May 25, 2010
- Dougher Colleen, "The Stick Man". *City Link*, March 24, 2010
- "Kark Evening News." Fox Channel 4, Little Rock, March 9, 2010

“Have Sticks Will Travel world tour to visit OBU in March.” *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, February 25, 2010
 Gilkerson, Mary. “Sticks, Straws, Sleeves and Lids Creates Beauty From Mundane”. *Free Time*, February 18, 2010
Eternal Return, exhibition Brochure, 2010
 “WACH Evening News.” Fox Channel, Columbia SC, January 21, 2010
Sticks, Straws, Sleeves and Lids, exhibition brochure, 2010
 Ragan, Sean, “Giant Cobweb Made of Coffee Stirrers”. <http://blog.makezine.com>, October 25, 2009
 Overton, Paul, “Stir it up- The Work of Jonathan Brilliant”. <http://www.dudecraft.com>, October 23, 2009
 “WREG Live at 9.” CBS Channel 3, Memphis, October 9, 2009
 Tyree, James, “Artist is 'stick'ing to his natural environment for 'stirring' work”. *The Oklahoman*, August 26, 2009
 Meier, Allison, “South Carolina artist pours out immense installation”. *Ok Gazette*, August 26, 2009
 Kulze, Liz. “In tune with Jonathan Brilliant and Karin Olah”. *Charleston City Paper*, August 17, 2009
 Bowers, Paul, “Caffeinated art”. *The Post and Courier*, June 4, 2009
 Smith, Nick, “Contemporary Charleston Celebrates Local Visionaries”. *The Charleston City Paper*, May 20, 2009
Contemporary Charleston 2009: Revelation of Process (catalog and DVD), 2009
 Sherwin, Brian, “Artspace Talk: Jonathan Brilliant”. <http://www.myartspace.com/blog>, November 24, 2008
 Bors, Chris, “Eric Guzman in Brooklyn”, <http://www.artinfo.com>, October 10, 2008
 Curcio, Seth. “Chris Coffin & Jonathan Brilliant”, <http://www.dailyserving.com>, September 12, 2008
Brilliant Package (self published catalog, edition of 20), 2008.
 Gilkerson, Mary. "Installation Art Rounds out a Month of Accessibility", *Columbia Free Times*, October 31, 2007
Lift Off (Exhibition Catalog), 2007.
 Smith, Nick. “The beauty in the sadness of things”, *The Charleston City Paper*. July 12, 2006.
The Floating (Exhibition Catalog), 2005.

Lectures

2011 **Artist Lecture**, *Stick, Stack, Show*, Kendall College of Art and Design
 2011 **Artist Lecture**, *Had Sticks, done traveled, what's next?*, Winthrop University
 2011 **Artist Lecture**, *Had Sticks, done traveled, what's next?*, Georgia College & State University
 2010 **Artist Lecture**, *Have Sticks Will Travel: The Year That Was*, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
 2010 **Solo Percussion Performance**, *Pipes, Percussion and Pecha Kucha*, Mint Museum of Art
 2010 **Artist Lecture**, *Where I've been and Where I'm Going*, Galeria Pezgorro
 2010 **Artist Lecture**, *Where I've been and Where I'm Going*, Florida Atlantic University
 2010 **Artist Lecture**, *Have Sticks Will Travel*, Ouachita Baptist University
 2010 **Artist Lecture**, *Sticks, Straws, Sleeves and Lids*, University of South Carolina
 2009 **Artist Lecture**, *Weaving, Welding, Stacking, Arranging, Coffee Cups and Performance*, University of Memphis
 2009 **Artist Lecture**, *Weaving, Welding, Stacking, Arranging, Coffee Cups and Performance*, University of Oklahoma
 2009 **Artist Lecture**, *Coffee Cups as Portable Consumer Fetish Objects*, Redux CAC
 2009 **Artist Lecture**, *Weaving, Tension, and the Politics of Space*, City Gallery at Waterfront Park
 2008 **Artist Lecture**, *Why I do what I do over and over again*, S.C. State University
 2008 **Artist Lecture**, *Things, process, Labor and the Coffee Cup*, Austin Peay State University
 2007 **Artist Lecture**, *The Transformative Power of Labor*, Sumter County Cultural Center
 2007 **Artist Lecture**, *Southern Has-Been, British Wanna-Be*, Ox-Bow School of Art

Permanent Collections

City of North Charleston
 University of Oklahoma
 Henderson State University
 University of West Georgia
 Georgia College & State University
 Winthrop University

Related Professional Experience

2011 **Visiting Critic for BFA program**, Winthrop University
 2011 **Adjunct Instructor**, University of South Carolina, Columbia SC
 2010 **Juror**, International Call for entries, Redux Contemporary Art Center
 2010 **Juror**, Receiver Time Based Media Festival
 2010 **Monotype Marathon Instructor**, McColl Center for Visual Art, Charlotte, NC

2009 **Curator**, THINGS, EyeLevel Art, Charleston, SC
2008-09 **Preparator**, Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, SC
2008 **Preparator**, Contemporary Carolina Collection, M.U.S.C.
2004-07 **Preparator**, Natalie and James Thompson Gallery, San Jose, CA
2005-07 **Gallery Coordinator**, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA
2007 **Printmaking Instructor**, Redux Contemporary Art Center, Charleston, SC
2007 **Teaching Assistant**, Systems and structures, with Professor Shannon Wright San Jose State University
2006 **Teaching Assistant**, Art of the 60's and 70's, with Professor Dore Bowen San Jose State University
2006 **Monotype Marathon Instructor**, Redux Contemporary Art Center, Charleston, SC
2006 **Sculpture Instructor**, high school Summer art institute at Redux, Charleston, SC
2005 **Instructor of record**, 3-D concepts, San Jose State University
2005 **Teaching Assistant**, 3-D concepts, with Professor Shannon Wright San Jose State University
2005 **Graduate Assistant**, Spartan Art Foundry, San Jose State University

Statement of Artistic Intent

“In addition to his work as visual artist, Jonathan Brilliant is a drummer. It’s a good fact to know about him upfront as the cadence and underlying pulse inherent to such percussive sensibilities impart an edge to his art that explains a lot about what’s happening. There are distinct tempos, repetitions and an underlying structure in his artwork. These Rhythmic qualities lend a certain presence and pattern to his installations where you can literally feel the vibe”

-Dave Delcambre, October 2010 Artsee Magazine

In 2006 I began My “Goldsworthy of the coffee shop project” initially assuming the role of a British artist who gathers materials in his natural environment and uses them to execute a site-specific installation. In my version the natural environment was the coffee shop, and my materials were the to-go coffee cup and all it’s accoutrements. The resulting work was both ironic and labor intensive with a traditional craft based sensibility. In this ongoing series of work, I now continue to explore my sense that the coffee shop and related consumer environs are more organic and nurturing than the “real” natural environment. To date the project has been realized in several locations as site-responsive installations. Central to these works are my woven stir stick installations. The Woven stick installations are created entirely in situ using only tension and compression to create a sculptural environment. In 2009 this work was expanded into an itinerant artist project. Traveling to several locations in succession for the Have Sticks Will Travel World Tour, I created multiple installations entirely in situ during the course of 8-10 day residencies at each location.

Central to all my work is an interest in patterning and mark-making fused with the use of pre- and post-consumer manufactured materials and the use of rhythm and repetition to create installations, objects, and works on paper. Running through my work is a real enthusiasm for the inherent qualities of a material and the extent to which I can exploit it for making art. Rather than relying solely on intuitive approaches I have a set of systems I apply to the materials at hand. These systems include, but are not limited to: weaving, welding, stacking, arranging, drumming, beating, rusting, drawing, photographing, looking at, and thinking about.

Biographical Narrative

Jonathan Brilliant was born in 1976 in Charleston, South Carolina. Brilliant holds a B.A. in studio art from the College of Charleston and an M.F.A. in Spatial Arts from San Jose State University. He has exhibited his work in several group and solo exhibitions nationally and internationally. He has received numerous fellowships to artist residencies and communities including: McColl Center for Visual Art, The Ox-Bow school of Art, The Vermont Studio Center, The Penland School of Crafts, The Redux Contemporary Art Center, The University of Oklahoma, The University of Memphis, and The East/West Project in Berlin Germany. From May 2009-December 2010 he conducted his “Have Sticks Will Travel world Tour”. The tour was a marathon series of site-specific installations that took place in thirteen galleries in eighteen months, in three countries, on two continents. Brilliant is a recent recipient of a \$20,000 individual artist grant from the Pollock Krasner Foundation and the South Carolina Arts Commission 2011-2012 Visual Arts Fellow. In November 2011 a large comprehensive exhibition, titled “Stick, Stack, Show” including new site work, sculptures, prints, and other gallery interventions will open at the Visual Arts Center of Richmond.