



JAMES MARTIN

*WHOLE CLOTH AND MIRRORS*

EXHIBITION FEB 7 - 28, 2013



## JAMES MARTIN

Seattle native James Martin has been sharing the stories of his outlandish mind for decades. His paintings host a range of characters, from Morris Graves and Picasso, to a truck driving lion and a spaceship flying cowboy. At first glance one might find his paintings random, but with time, Martin weaves a fantastical story where anything can happen and anyone can appear.

As one art reviewer said “The art would be depressing if it weren’t so zany, goofy”. Martin mixes humor and sarcasm with the soft innocence of his own personality. There is nostalgia to his work, wrapped in bold irreverence. No character is safe from being caricatured or better yet, turned into a PEZ dispenser.

Martin received his B.A. in creative writing from University of Washington and first exhibited his paintings in 1955. He has been featured in countless articles, and was the focus of Sheila Farr’s 2001 monograph, “James Martin: Art Rustler at the Rivoli”. At 83, Martin continues to paint, and more importantly, let his mind wander wherever it pleases.

Cover:  
*Green Suit for Sale*  
2012  
gouache on paper  
19.5 x 23.5 in.



*Jim & George*  
2012  
gouache on paper  
13 x 8.25 in.





*Picasso Waving His Shoe*  
2012  
gouache on paper  
13.5 x 19 in.





*Red Monkey Etc. Woman Turning*  
2001  
gouache on paper  
13.5 x 19 in.



*A Woman Turns*, 2012, gouache on paper, 14 x 14.25 in.





*"Yes, I Wanted to Paint a Strawberry and a Potato"*  
 2012  
 gouache on paper  
 14.5 x 23.5 in.



*Potato as Mouse*  
 2012  
 gouache on paper  
 13.75 x 23.5 in.





*Some Stones Unturned*  
2012  
gouache on paper  
15.75 x 19 in.



*Ritual Vessel and Spud with Hat*  
2012  
gouache on paper  
8 x 17.5 in.





*Mermaid Seated Pablo on Big Potato*, 2012, gouache on paper, 14 x 15.5 in.



*Illusion Upright Potato*  
2012  
gouache on paper  
19.5 x 23.5 in.





*Art with Poem*  
2012  
gouache on paper  
13.75 x 19.5 in.



*Potato D'Art*  
2012  
gouache on paper  
13.25 x 19.5 in.





*Humor is the Ultimate Reality  
often on a Green Horse  
2012  
gouache on paper  
11.5 x 19 in.*





*Enter the Owl*  
2012  
gouache on paper  
16.5 x 23.5 in.



*Red Recliner*  
2012  
gouache on paper  
13.5 x 19 in.



*Ain't that a  
Shame on Blue*  
2012  
gouache on paper  
14 x 11.5 in.



*Big Hands Dangling Shoe*  
2012  
gouache on paper  
13 x 17 in.





*Whirligig I 2 Views of Strawberry*  
 2008  
 gouache on paper  
 14.75 x 19.5 in.



*Gutton Slammer mit Bees and Prize Potato*  
 2012  
 gouache on paper  
 19.5 x 23.5 in.





*Past, Present, Future, Almost*  
 2012  
 gouache on paper  
 16.75 x 19 in.



*Picture of a Belly Dancer*  
 gouache on paper  
 16 x 19.25 in.





*Chifforobe, Elephant in the Room*

2012

gouache on paper

12.75 x 15 in.

## JAMES MARTIN

Education      B.A., Creative Writing, University of Washington, Seattle

### Selected Exhibitions

- 2013 "Whole Cloth and Mirror", Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2012 Edmonds Library, Edmonds, WA  
"Poke-In-The-Eye", Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2011 "Strawberry Series," Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2010 "Guy Anderson and Other Friends: The Paul I. Gingrich, Jr. Collection," MONA, La Conner, WA  
"Olive Branch," Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA  
"Shorty's Black Dress," Foster/White Gallery, Seattle WA
- 2009 "It's Only Paint Mrs. Rembrandt," Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2008 "Is There Life After Crayolas?" Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA  
"No Joke: Selections from the Pruzan Collection," Museum of Northwest Art, La Conner, WA  
"Century 21, Dealer's Choice," Wright Exhibition Space, Seattle, WA, curated by Seattle Art Dealers Association members.
- 2007 "No Woolly Mammoths Here," Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2006 "Crime & Punishment," Bau-Xi Gallery Toronto, ON
- 2005 '05 "The Continental," Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA  
"Souvenirs," Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA, group
- 2004 "Searching for the Perfect Vehicle?" Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2003 "Paintings," Edmonds City Hall, Edmonds, WA, two person with Joyeanna Chaudiere
- 2001 The Museum of Northwest Art, La Connor, WA, a retrospective  
"Imagine, Help Is on the Wall. Celebrations That You Won't Want To Miss," Foster/White Gallery, Kirkland, WA, solo
- 2000 Museum of Northwest Art, La Conner, WA, group  
Pulliam Deffenbaugh Gallery, Portland, OR, solo
- 1999 Foster/White Gallery, Kirkland, WA, solo
- 1998 "From the Duck Farm," Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA



Pulliam Deffenbaugh Gallery, Portland, OR, solo  
 1996 “New Paintings,” Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA, group  
 “Advance Work,” Foster/White Gallery, Kirkland, WA, solo  
 1995 Foster/White Gallery, Kirkland, WA, group  
 Bellevue Art Museum, Bellevue, WA  
 Pulliam Deffenbaugh Nugent Gallery, Portland, OR, solo  
 1994 “Glories of the Game: The Art of Baseball,” SAFECO, group  
 “Recent Paintings & Drawings,” Foster/White Gallery, Kirkland, WA  
 1993 Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA, group  
 Pulliam Deffenbaugh Nugent Gallery, Portland, OR, solo  
 1992 “Recent Paintings,” Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA, solo  
 1991 Foster/White Gallery at Frederick & Nelson, Seattle, WA,  
 two person exhibition with Patty Detzer  
 Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA, group  
 Mt. Angel Abbey Library, Mt. Angel, OR, solo  
 1990 Pulliam/Nugent Gallery, Portland, OR, solo  
 1989 Foster/White Gallery at Frederick & Nelson, Seattle, WA solo  
 1988 “Through The Looking Glass,” Bellevue Art Museum, Bellevue, WA  
 1987 Foster/White Gallery at Frederick & Nelson, Seattle, WA, solo  
 “Fur, Feathers and Scales: Especially For Children,” Bellevue Art Museum, Bellevue, WA  
 1986 “Martin Tour Collection: The Art of St. Martin’s Abbey,” Tacoma Art Museum,  
 Tacoma, WA  
 Woodside/Braseth Gallery, Seattle, WA  
 NW Impressions: Works on paper Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA  
 25th Anniversary Exhibition, Fountain Gallery, Portland, OR, group  
 1985 Woodside/Braseth Gallery, Seattle, WA, solo  
 Fountain Gallery, Portland, OR, group  
 1983 Woodside/Braseth Gallery, Seattle, WA, group  
 1982 Fountain Gallery, Portland, OR, solo  
 Woodside/Braseth Gallery, Seattle, WA, solo  
 1979 Gordon Woodside Gallery, Seattle, WA, solo  
 1975 Gordon Woodside Gallery, Seattle, WA, solo  
 1972 Gordon Woodside Gallery, Seattle, WA, solo  
 Fountain Gallery, Portland, OR, group  
 1971 Gordon Woodside Gallery, Seattle, WA, solo

1970 Gordon Woodside Gallery, Seattle, WA, solo  
 Fountain Gallery, Portland, OR, group  
 1969 James Martin Showcase, Edmonds, WA  
 1968 Windsor Utley Gallery, Seattle, WA, solo  
 Louise Gilbert Little Gallery, Seattle, WA  
 Seattle Art Museum, 28th Annual Exhibition of NW Watercolors, Seattle, WA  
 Fountain Gallery, Portland, OR  
 1967 Summer Salon, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA  
 Otto Seligman Gallery, Seattle, WA, two person with Alan Riley  
 Windsor Utley Gallery, Seattle WA  
 1966 Otto Seligman Gallery, Seattle, WA  
 University of Oregon, Eugene, OR  
 1965 Otto Seligman Gallery, Seattle, WA, two person with Polly Rawn  
 Seattle Art Museum, 51st Annual Exhibition of NW Artists, Seattle, WA  
 Renton Creative Arts Festival, Renton, WA  
 1964 Fountain Gallery, Portland, OR, solo  
 State Capitol Museum, Olympia, WA  
 Seattle Art Museum, 50th Annual Exhibition of NW Artists, Seattle, WA  
 Seattle Art Museum, 24th Annual Exhibition of Watercolors, Seattle, WA  
 Northwest Craft Center and Gallery, Seattle WA  
 1963 Younger Washington Artists, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA  
 Seattle Art Museum, 23rd Annual Exhibition of Watercolors, Seattle, WA  
 Otto Seligman Gallery, Seattle, WA, two person with Morris Weiner  
 1962 Otto Seligman Gallery, Seattle, WA, solo  
 Otto Seligman Gallery, Seattle, WA, two person with Herbert Scribner  
 Seattle Art Museum, 48th Annual Exhibition of NW Artists, Seattle, WA  
 Seattle Art Museum, 22nd Annual Exhibition of Watercolors, Seattle, WA  
 1961 Seattle Art Museum, 47th Annual Exhibition of NW Artists, Seattle, WA  
 Seattle Art Museum, 21st Annual Exhibition of Watercolors, Seattle, WA  
 1958 Seattle Art Museum, 44th Annual Exhibition of NW Artists, Seattle, WA  
 Otto Seligman Gallery, Seattle, WA, two person with Virginia Kobler  
 1955 Louise Gilbert Little Gallery, Frederick & Nelson, Seattle, WA  
 Seattle Art Museum, 41st Annual Exhibition of NW Artists, Seattle, WA



## Selected Publications

Brotman, Eric. "The Mystery of 309 Main Street." Edmonds Beacon, April 8, 2010

Upchurch, Michael. "Like 'Tetrasomy Two,' skeels was a true original." Seattle Times, December 16, 2007.

Jacobson, Lynn. "SW This Week." Seattle Weekly January 4-10, 2006: 31.

Out of the Dust. Edmonds: Edmonds Arts Festival, 2005.

Kangas, Matthew. "Artists show folk sensibility." Seattle Times January 21, 2005: 43H.

Farr, Sheila. "Layered meanings come standard with James Martin's 'Perfect Vehicle'." Seattle Times February 20, 2004.

Enterprise Staff. "Artist focus: James Martin & Joyeanna Chaudiere." Enterprise May 9, 2003: 29, 33.

Hall, Emily. "Artist in a Bunny Suit, The Strange Undertow of James Martin." The Stranger Vol. 12, No. 7.

Farr, Sheila. "Absurdities and Profundities." Pacific Northwest Seattle Times Magazine June 17, 2001: 1-28.

Johnson, Barry. "The James Martin treatment." Bookweek March 18, 2001: E12.

"An ephemeral service with lasting impact." Union Record 2001.

"New exhibit, new book proclaim artist's mastery." The Edmonds Beacon January 4 – 17, 2001: 15, 19.

Godfrey, Susan. "Warmer colors invite gallery artwalkers." Kirkland Courier January 1, 2001: 10.

Farr, Sheila. James Martin, Art Rustler at the Rivoli. Seattle: The University of Washington, 2001. Published in association with the Museum of Northwest Art in conjunction with retrospective.

Farr, Sheila. "Freaks, Floozies Inhabit James Martin's Art." Seattle Times September 14, 1999: E1-2.

Updike, Robin. "Storytelling through Art." Seattle Times January 29, 1998: G24.

Updike, Robin. "When Birds Are Singing, Can Spring Be Far Behind?" Seattle Times December 17, 1996: F1-8.

Farr, Sheila. "Risky Business." Seattle Weekly January 18, 1996: 23.

Eastsideweek April 13, 1994: 41.

Hackett, Regina. "The Arts." Seattle Guide Vol. 72, No. 17 (1994): 24.

Seattle Guide Vol.70, No. 33 (1992): 7.

"Object Lessons." Home & Garden: Summer 1990.

Ament, Delores Tarzan. "A Child of Art." Seattle Times/Seattle Post-Intelligencer: August 27, 1989: K1-4.

25th Anniversary Exhibit. Portland, Oregon: Fountain Gallery of Art, 1986.

Klemperer, Louise; Paul Sutinen; and Sabrina Ullmann. "July Roundup." Willamette Week, August 3-9, 1982: 24.

Bargreen, Melinda. "James Martin's World." Panorama Magazine Everett Herald, February 19, 1977: 12-13.

Tarzan, Delores. "Fine Paintings at Four Galleries." Seattle Times March 4, 1975: C4.

Voorhees, John. "Freaky Lions at Woodside." Seattle Times November 18, 1971: G10.

Watson, Emmett. "Elliott Bay Windows." Seattle Post-Intelligence, October 27, 1969: 13.

Batie, Jean. "Artist Has Major Role at Theater." Seattle Times June 20, 1969.

"Original Art to Be Raffled." Seattle Times April 25, 1969.

Gregory, Anne. "Unusual World of James Martin Shown." The Enterprise October 30, 1968: 1-6.

Duncan, Don. "Jim Martin: A Man and His Paintings." Seattle Times October 1, 1968: 12.

Batie, Jean. "Martin's Lions in Plain Brown Wrappers." Seattle Times 1968.

"Utley's to Show Work by Martin." Seattle Times October 2, 1967.

"The Seligman Gallery." Seattle Times September 1, 1967.

Batie, Jean. "Something with Six Toes Is Afoot." Seattle Times September 1, 1967: 24.

Faber, Ann. "Martin Show at Seligman." Seattle Times October 14, 1966.

Todd, Anne G. "Martin's Paintings Strange but Genial." Seattle Times October 5, 1966.

"Martin's Work at Seligman." University District Herald September 28, 1966.

Faber, Ann. "Harvest of Art Works at Renton." Seattle Post-Intelligencer June 11, 1965: 28.

Faber, Ann. "The Wonderful World of Artist James Martin." Seattle Post-Intelligencer May 21, 1965: 23.

Todd, Anne G. "East Looks Western in Kobe Paintings." Seattle Times May 16, 1965.

Faber, Ann. "Galleries Here Put Large Foot Forward." Seattle Post Intelligencer August 10, 1964: 23.

"More Collectors' Items Offered at Seligman." University District Herald July 29, 1964: 9.

Robbins, Tom. "Seattle Center Gallery Gives a Hoot for Art." Seattle Times May 10, 1964: 16.

Robbins, Tom. "Hoots and Hail Marys-The Varied Voice of Art." Seattle Times 1964.

"Henry Gallery Shows Local Artist's Work." Edmonds Tribune August 8, 1963.

Robbins, Tom. "At Seligman's Gallery, It's 'Otto in Wonderland.'" Seattle Times June 16, 1963: 40.

Younger Washington Artists. Seattle: Henry Art Gallery, 1963.





SHORT MOVIE Martin

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*Short Movie*

2012

gouache on paper

12.25 x 21 in.