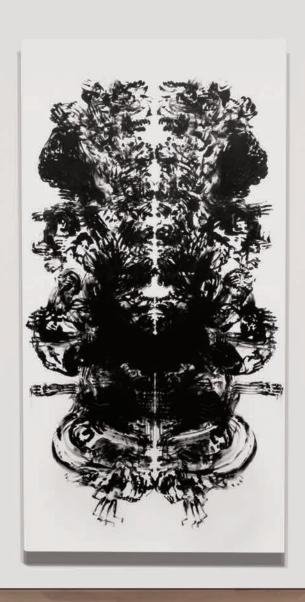
# MARK WALLINGER WALK MATINGER





66

I think one needs
to find the particular
in order to find the general,
which is what art does.

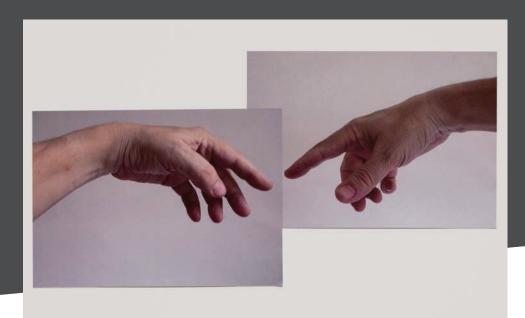
9

Mark Wallinger's visual style includes a range of methods and materials, which he uses to address remarkably consistent themes. The works in this exhibition present his diverse approaches to a multilayered study of identity.

Wallinger's monumental *id Paintings* are scaled to his body — twice his height and as wide as his outstretched arms. By applying black paint directly with his palms, and using his left and right hands simultaneously, Wallinger composes halves that mirror each other. The potential for unique interpretations of the resulting images brings to mind the Rorschach test, which analyzes responses to inkblots as a means to examine personality characteristics.

The titles of *id* (right) and *Ego* (upper center), refer to Sigmund Freud's belief that our personality contains three interacting systems: the id, an impulsive childlike self that is motivated by pleasure; the ego, which strives to balance the id's demands with reality; and the superego, which is preoccupied with obeying social and moral rules.





To create *Ego*, Wallinger took separate photographs of his left and right hands, which he posed to resemble a detail from Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel. The scene is from the *Creation of Adam*. God reaches from the right as Adam lifts his hand to receive the touch that will give him life.

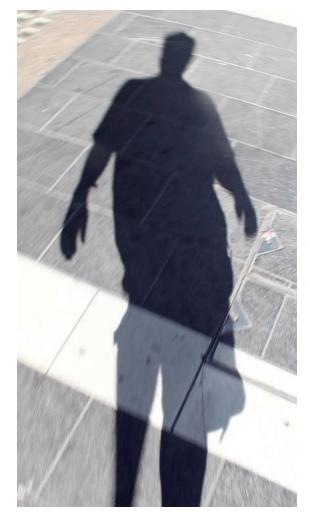
Mark Wallinger, *Ego*, Digital prints, 2016, Ed. 29/100.

The plane across the top of these pages indicates a link between Wallinger's *id* and *Ego*, representing one of many connections between the two works. In addition to their Freud-inspired titles, what other similarities can you find?

Collaborate with friends to find links between the Wallinger artworks pictured here. Draw lines and add notes to describe the connections you find.

Shadow Walker is a life-sized video documentation of Wallinger's shadow. Moving ahead of him as he walks a London street, Wallinger's shadow appears to lead an independent existence as the artist's shadowy self.

Left: Mark Wallinger, *id Painting 42*, acrylic on canvas, 2015, photography by Alex Delfanne; Right: Mark Wallinger, *Shadow Walker*, video installation for monitor, sound, 3 min., 39 sec., 2011, Ed. 5/10 + 2 AP.



For 10 nights, Wallinger attracted the surprised attention of passersby while he wandered, alone and costumed as a bear, through an empty and locked museum — Berlin's glass-walled Neue Nationalgalerie. Wallinger, an Englishman, was living in Berlin at that time, where the large animal is an ever-present civic symbol. His performance was also inspired by a childhood fairy tale about a prince who is transformed into a bear.

Mark Wallinger, *Sleeper*, projected video installation, silent, 2 hr., 30 min., 52 sec., 2004, Ed. 1/3 + 2 AP, photography by Stefan Maria Rother.





66

... that's the other important thing to me, making works that hinge on a kind of recognition, or a revelatory moment.

"

As the title of *Self* (*Symbol*) suggests, this work embodies the idea of a symbolic self. It depicts an uppercase Times New Roman "I," reimagined in the round, and made to the same height as Wallinger. The artist points out that "I" is the word we use most often to refer to ourselves and yet is one we share with everyone else.

Mark Wallinger, Self (Symbol), glass reinforced polyester on painted wooden base, 2017.

All works courtesy of the artist and Hauser & Wirth.

### Citations

Mansfield, S. (2017, February 28). Interview: Mark Wallinger. Retrieved from scotsman.com/arts-and-culture/art/interview-mark-wallinger-on-his-giant-id-paintings-coming-soon-to-edinburgh-and-dundee-1-4378991

## ABOUT THE ARTIST AND THE EXHIBITION

The SCAD Museum of Art presents 'Mark Wallinger,' a solo exhibition by Turner Prize-winning artist Mark Wallinger. Throughout his career, the artist has produced an astonishingly cohesive yet stylistically diverse body of work. Wallinger moves effortlessly between mediums with equal mastery and precision, his ideas often taking the form of installations, paintings, moving images, sculptures, and text-based works, among others.

Specially conceived for the SCAD Museum of Art, 'Mark Wallinger' is an exhibition by and about the artist, which presents a constellation of works from 2003 to 2018. Using mirrorings and conceptual unfoldings, bouncing from perception to action and from subject to object, the artist explores the complexities and nuances of the self. The title of the exhibition presents a mirroring of the artist's name, referencing one of his most ambitious recent projects, the *id Paintings*. A series of large-scale, black-and-white paintings that have a relationship to his height and arm span, each painting is defined by the artist's body and movement, becoming a unique Rorschach test-styled image.

In dialogue with a large selection of the *id Paintings*, a selection of recent artworks in the exhibition delicately interweaves references to literature, the subconscious, and the simultaneity of presence and absence.

Mark Wallinger's artworks are poignant and multifaceted, related to ideas of power, reality, religion, class, and authority. His works are characterized for their conceptual rigor and the capacity to embody a multitude of references while simultaneously conveying an apparent simplicity and a sense of humor. Wallinger reveals the other side of things, the complex negotiations happening within the realm of the obvious, by subtle gestures of signaling, highlighting, or removing elements of the everyday. More recently, the artist has delved into a profound exploration of identity and the notion of the self. This search has been guiding Wallinger's practice from one project to the next, actively finding resonances between systems of organizing the self — systems related to social, political, or even psychological spheres.

'Mark Wallinger' is curated by Humberto Moro, curator of SCAD exhibitions.

# ABOUT SCAD AND SCAD MUSEUM OF ART

Offering more degree programs and specializations than any other art and design university, SCAD is uniquely qualified to prepare talented students for creative professions. The SCAD Museum of Art, a resource for SCAD students and alumni during their academic careers and beyond, features emerging and established international artists through commissioned works and rotating exhibitions, and involves local communities with special initiatives of international scope.

SCAD Museum of Art educational materials engage K-12 audiences in activities that enhance understanding of art and design — investigations that reveal relevant personal, historical, and cultural connections while promoting cross-disciplinary links necessary for today's innovative careers.

For more information, visit scad.edu and scadmoa.org.

## SCAD: The University for Creative Careers

The Savannah College of Art and Design is a private, nonprofit, accredited university, offering more than 100 academic degree programs in more than 40 majors across its locations in Atlanta and Savannah, Georgia; Hong Kong; Lacoste, France; and online via SCAD eLearning.

For more information, visit **scad.edu**.



