

# Shawn Kerns verse the Cleveland Museum of Art

As part of an exhibit detailing the inevitable end of the artist Shawn Kerns from employment to the Cleveland Museum of Art, the installation *Shawn Kerns verse the Cleveland Museum of Art* shows first hand experience as an art handler in the large art institution.

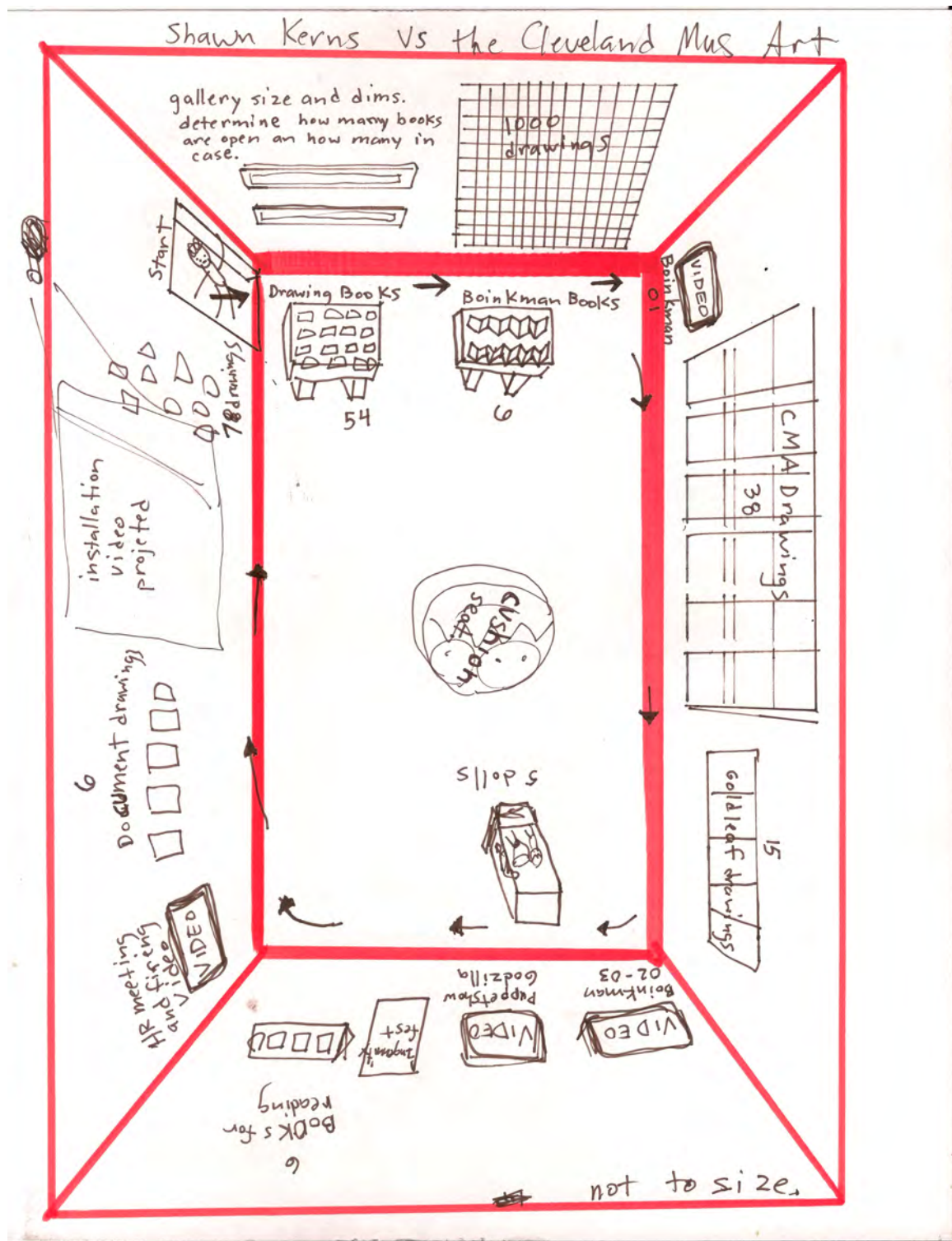
Books reveal thoughts, ideas, show processes, and develop narratives. The books by Shawn Kerns caused hostile environments became simulacrum for museum culture and reflect the good, bad, and ugly of museums. The drawing books pair up in the installation with videos and sounds that the artist recorded on a tablet and phone. Art passed through hands, was studied, copied, recreated and recorded in books and videos and now presented in the installation, *Shawn Kerns verse the Cleveland Museum of Art*.

The drawing books created by Shawn Kerns while an employee at the Cleveland Museum of Art exist in unison with videos, animations, dolls, documents, and drawings to be shown together in the installation *Shawn Kerns verses the Cleveland Museum of Art*, conceptualized after the artist was hastily fired from the Cleveland Museum of Art for showing the installation *Boinkman the Art Handler* in September 2019 at Cleveland Ingenuity. Cleveland Ingenuity was the third showing of the piece in 2019. The first was at the Transformer Station in March, which was sponsored by the Cleveland Museum of Art and the second showing was at the Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland in August during the Art Handler Olympics, which Shawn Kerns won. At the Cleveland Ingenuity show the artist published a book with the show and through this book the artist was accused of creating a hostile work environment at the Cleveland Museum of Art.

The artist worked at the museum for 5 years as an art handler, was a model employee, started a ping-pong league and talked of work conditions and unionizing. The drawing books briefly reflect upon on themes of poor working conditions, mismanagement and abuse by developing comically drawn characters to enlighten upon situations created in the galleries. The animations reflect on installations and interactions between employees where bullying is an excepted theme among the hierarchy in the museum that is encouraged by staff interactions, but the show is mainly about the joy of working in a museum and the pleasures it rewards to artists. *Shawn Kerns verse the Cleveland Museum of Art* is the fight over a fictional character and who has the right to decide what this fictional character represents, the artist or the institution?

Examining museum hierarchy culture and its treatment to artists has brought Shawn Kerns to involve the United States Government National Labor Relations Board. The artist brought charges to the Cleveland Museum of Art for violation of unfair labor practices within the meaning of section 8(a), subsections (1) of the National Labor Relations Act. Documents on legal action taken by the artist verse the Cleveland Museum of Art are drawn upon to help tell the story as part of the show.

The installation *Shawn Kerns verse the Cleveland Museum of Art* shows the relationship between an artist and institution. The drawing books created by Shawn Kerns while an employee at the Cleveland Museum of Art are intended for enjoyment and should be appreciated as information into a time period and place in Cleveland, Ohio 2014 – 2019.




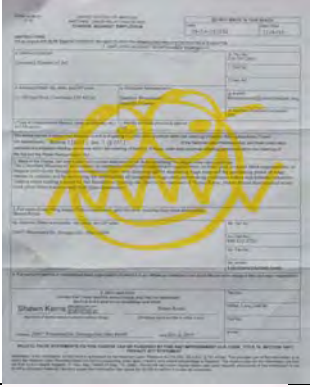



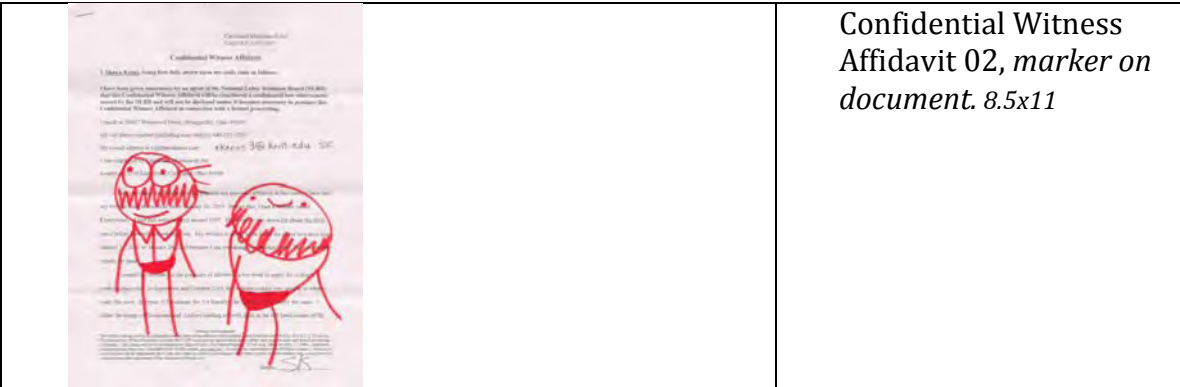
Not all pieces are shown and the drawing is not to scale as and it doesn't have to be in this shape. It will fill a large space and can be cut down to fill a small space.

Shawn Kerns © 2020

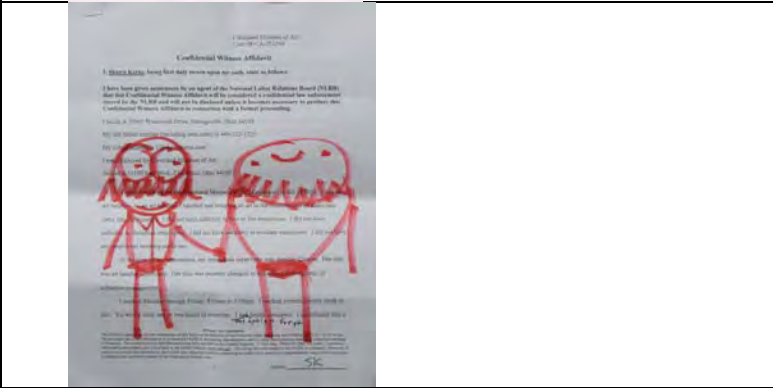
Shawn Kerns verse the Cleveland Museum of Art – Image List ©2020

		<p>Boinkman the Art Handler Drawings on Gold Leaf Booklets 01- 03 <i>4x8 one</i></p>
		<p>Boinkman the Art Handler Drawings on Gold Leaf Booklets 04- 06 <i>4x8 one</i></p>
		<p>Boinkman the Art Handler Drawings on Gold Leaf Booklets 07- 09 <i>4x8 one</i></p>
		<p>Boinkman the Art Handler Drawings on Gold Leaf Booklets 10- 12 <i>4x8 one</i></p>

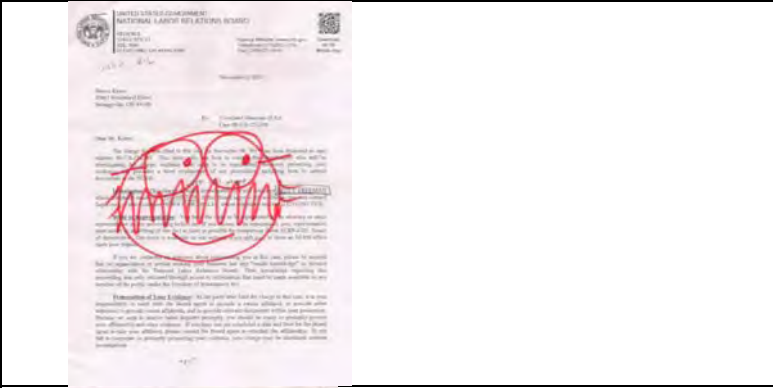
	<p>Boinkman the Art Handler Drawings on Gold Leaf Booklets 13-15 4x8 one</p>
	<p>Boinkman the Art Handler Drawings on Tracing Paper 01-775, pencil and ink on tracing paper. 4x4</p>
	<p>Heather Weisensee Boinkman Card, marker on card stock. 2x3</p>
	<p>Charge Against Employer, marker on document. 8.5x11</p>
	<p>Amended Charge Against Employer, marker on document. 8.5x11</p>



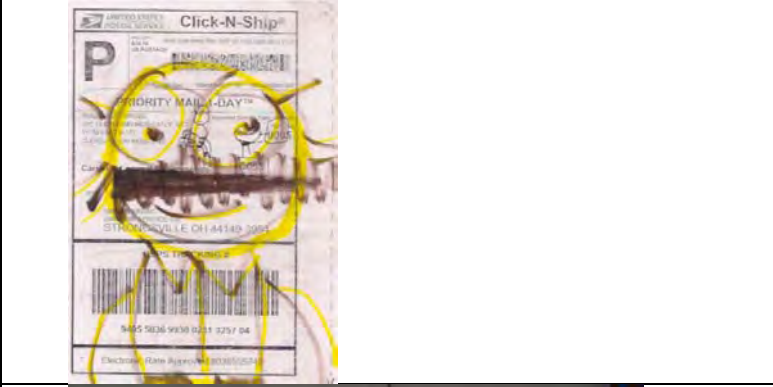
Confidential Witness Affidavit 02, marker on document. 8.5x11



Confidential Witness Affidavit 0, marker on document. 8.5x11



National Labor Relations Board, marker on document. 8.5x11



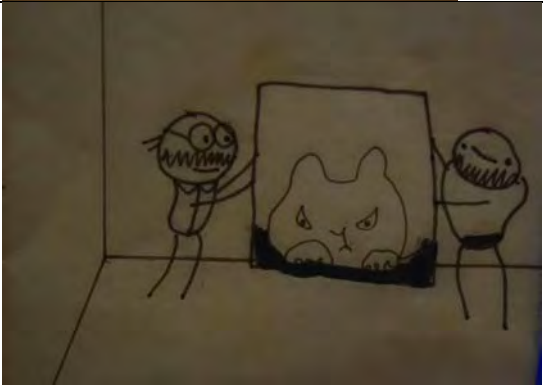




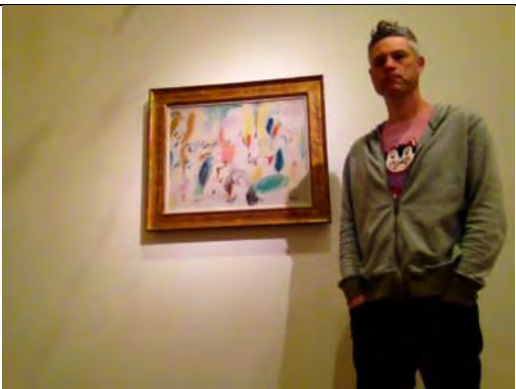




UPS Return of Desk Material, marker on shipping label. 7x5








Boinkman the Art Handler 01 - Sol Lewitt, animation 01:14





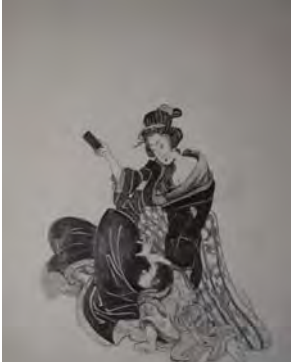
<https://vimeo.com/304738586>

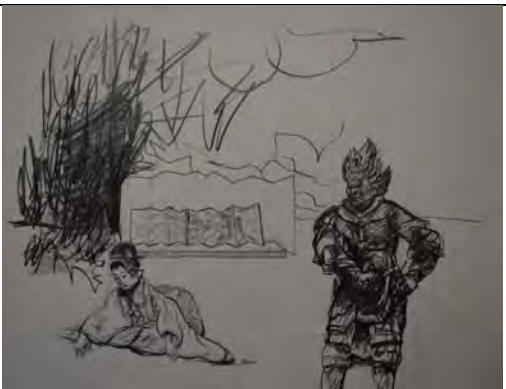
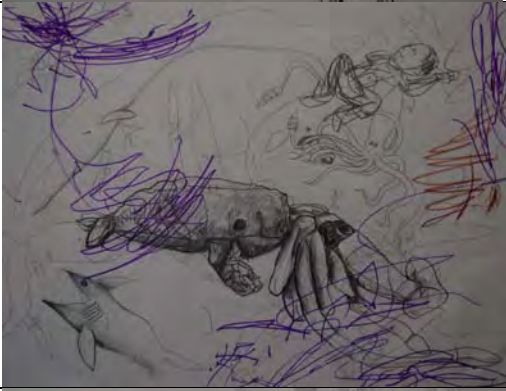



		<p>Boinkman the Art Handler 02 – Kusma, <i>animation 01:38</i></p> <p><a href="https://vimeo.com/341934833">https://vimeo.com/341934833</a></p>
		<p>Boinkman the Art Handler 03 – Jazz Age, <i>animation 00:44</i></p> <p><a href="https://vimeo.com/341935346">https://vimeo.com/341935346</a></p>
		<p>Boinkman the Art Handler 04 – Shinto, <i>animation 01:21</i></p> <p>Not online.</p>
		<p>Boinkman the Art Handler 05 – Godzilla, <i>animation 03:38</i></p> <p>Not online.</p>
		<p>Boinkman the Art Handler 06 – Puppet Show, <i>animation 02:35</i></p> <p><a href="https://vimeo.com/341942150">https://vimeo.com/341942150</a></p>

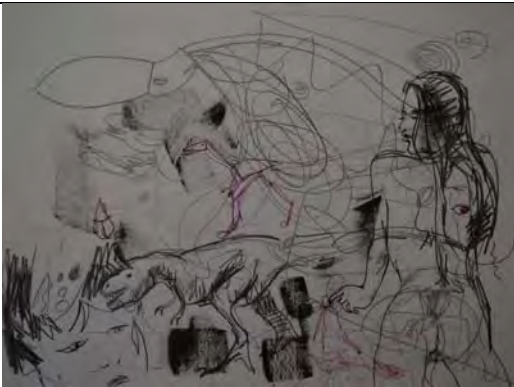




		<p>Shawn Kerns verses the Cleveland Museum of Art 01 – <i>museum recordings, videos, and phone recordings 04:48</i></p> <p>Not online.</p>
		<p>Installations, <i>video 13:02</i></p> <p>Not online.</p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 01, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 02, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 03, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>

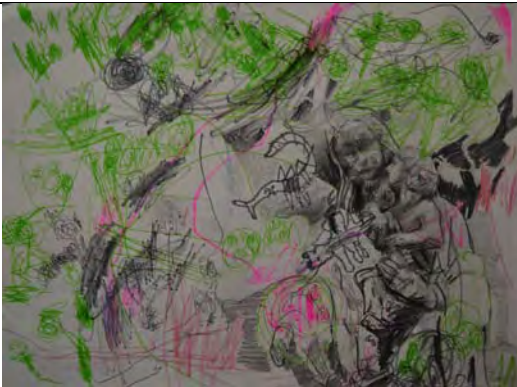




		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 04, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 05, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 06, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 07, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 08, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper.</i></p>



		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 09, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 10, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 11, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 12, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 13, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>

		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 14, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 15, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 16, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 17, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 18, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>

		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 19, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 20, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 21 <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 22, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 23, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>

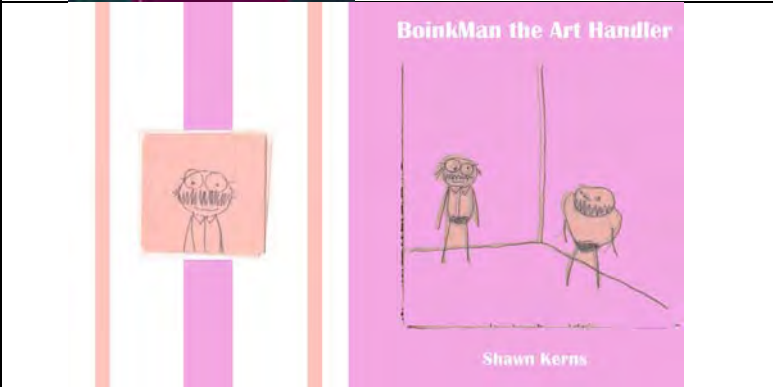
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 24, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 25, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 26, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art 27, <i>pencil, ink, crayon and marker on drawing paper. 18x24</i></p>
		<p>Boinkman the Art Handler Action Figure 01-04, <i>metal, latex, cloth, rubber, and foam</i></p>



Boinkman the Art Handler Drawing Books 01-06, pencil and ink on drawing paper. 4x5



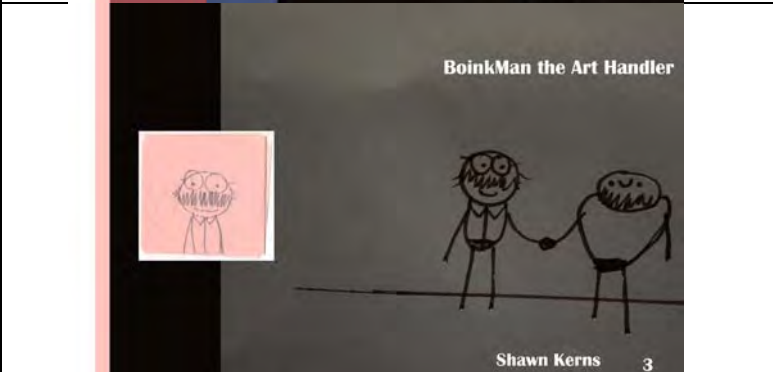
Boinkman the Art Handler Cleveland Ingenuity Poster, digital print and marker on poster board. 18x24



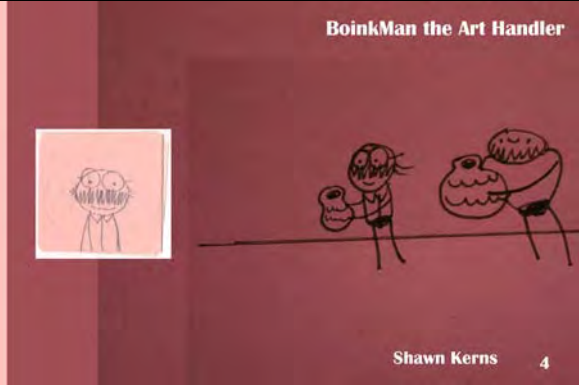
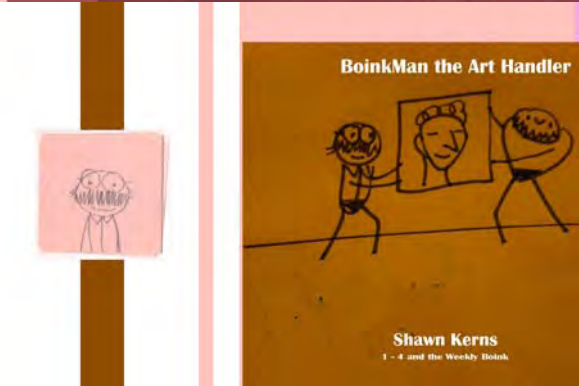


Boinkman the Art Handler Published Books on Amazon, 01, book. 6x8



Boinkman the Art Handler Published Books on Amazon, 02, book. 6x8



Boinkman the Art Handler Published Books on Amazon, 03, book. 6x8

	<p>Boinkman the Art Handler Published Books on Amazon, 04, <i>book. 6x8</i></p>
	<p>Boinkman the Art Handler Published Books on Amazon, 05, <i>book. 6x8</i></p>
	<p>Drawing books while employed at the Cleveland Museum of Art 01-53, <i>pencil, marker, watercolor, pen, ink, print, crayon, and miscellaneous materials on paper. 4x5</i></p>
	<p>Drawings of Boinkman the Art Handler 01-78, <i>pencil, ink, and marker on paper. 6x8 one</i></p> <p>Owned by Todd Lampman</p>
<p>58 images with descriptions.  Total pieces are different from images.  Videos- 8  CMA drawings – 27  Boinkman and Artist drawing books – 60  Gold leaf booklets – 15  Documents – 8  Published Books –6  Small drawings – 78  Drawings on Tracing Paper – 1000</p>	<p>= 1191</p>

