

MEDIA RELEASE

The Studio Museum in Harlem
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**STUDIO
MUSEUM
HARLEM**

Mark Bradford: Alphabet

On view November 11, 2010—March 13, 2011



Mark Bradford, *Untitled (A)*, 2001



Mark Bradford, *Untitled (B)*, 2001



Mark Bradford, *Untitled (C)*, 2001

NEW YORK, NY, October 19, 2010—With the exhibition *Mark Bradford: Alphabet*, The Studio Museum in Harlem is proud to present *Untitled (A-Z)*, a major new body of work by the internationally acclaimed artist. Exhibited for the first time, this group of 26 décollage paintings continues Bradford's process-intensive practice of making mixed media work exploring visual communication.

Produced over the course of the last year, each painting contains a single letter. *Alphabet* extends Bradford's ongoing "merchant posters" for which he canvasses his South Los Angeles neighborhood for handmade advertising signs, and then repurposes their messages to comment on the needs and desires of not only his local community, but the social world beyond his immediate locale. His singular talent of investigating language and its meaning is present in this wonderful series that also shows Bradford's highly skilled approach to painting and collage.

Mark Bradford was born in Los Angeles, where he continues to live and work. He received his BFA and MFA from the California Institute of the Arts in 1995 and 1997, respectively, and was included in the 2001 exhibition *Freestyle* at The Studio Museum in Harlem. Since then, he has exhibited in solo exhibitions at The Whitney Museum of American Art in New York (2007) and the Aspen Art Museum in Colorado (2010), and is currently the subject of a major survey exhibition organized by the Wexner Center for the Arts, which will travel through 2012. In 2009, Bradford was awarded the prestigious MacArthur Fellowship.

Mark Bradford: Alphabet was organized by Thomas Lax, Exhibition Coordinator and Program Associate.

About The Studio Museum in Harlem

Founded in 1968, The Studio Museum in Harlem is a contemporary art museum that focuses on the work of artists of African descent locally, nationally and globally, as well as work that has been inspired and influenced by African-American culture. The Museum is committed to serving as a unique resource in the local community, and in national and international arenas, by making artworks and exhibitions concrete and personal for each viewer.

Hours and Admission

The Studio Museum is open Thursday and Friday, noon-9pm; Saturday, 10am-6pm; Sunday, noon-6pm. The museum is closed to the public on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Museum admission is by suggested donation: \$7 for adults, \$3 for students (with valid id) and seniors. Free for children 12 and under. Sundays are free at the Studio Museum, thanks to generous support from Target.

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