

ART WORKS CHICAGO

A PROGRESSIVE CORPORATE EXHIBITION
OF CHICAGO ARTISTS

DAN MILLS

MAPPING: A QUEST FOR THE PRESENT AND FUTURE



FEATURING

DAN MILLS



DAN MILLS
Human/Nature, 1971, 1998-2002
acrylic on mixed media construction
154 x 92 x 5 inches

DAN MILLS ABOUT THE ARTIST

Dan Mills has shown his work nationally and internationally, and recently exhibited at Chicago-based Zolla/Lieberman Gallery as well as the Cultural Center in Chicago. Both Mills' 2012 exhibitions *Quest* and *US Future States Atlas* and related materials speak to the underlying meanings and aesthetics in map making, and stem from influences such as the game of Risk, American history and urban renewal.

Mills grew up in upstate New York, received his BFA from Rochester Institute of Technology, and his MFA from Northern Illinois University. He was a vital part of the Chicago community for years and participated in the arts with his artistic and curatorial services, including a position with the First National Bank Art Collection.

He has directed academic museums since 1994, and currently serves as the Director at Bates College Museum of Art in Lewiston, Maine, as well as a lecturer in the Humanities Department. Mills was previously the Director at Samek Art Gallery in Lewisburg, PA, and after 25 years of experience he is recognized for both his curatorial abilities and his innovative artwork.

For more information about Dan Mills and his work, please contact Zolla/Lieberman Gallery at (312)944-1990 or visit zollaliebermangallery.com.

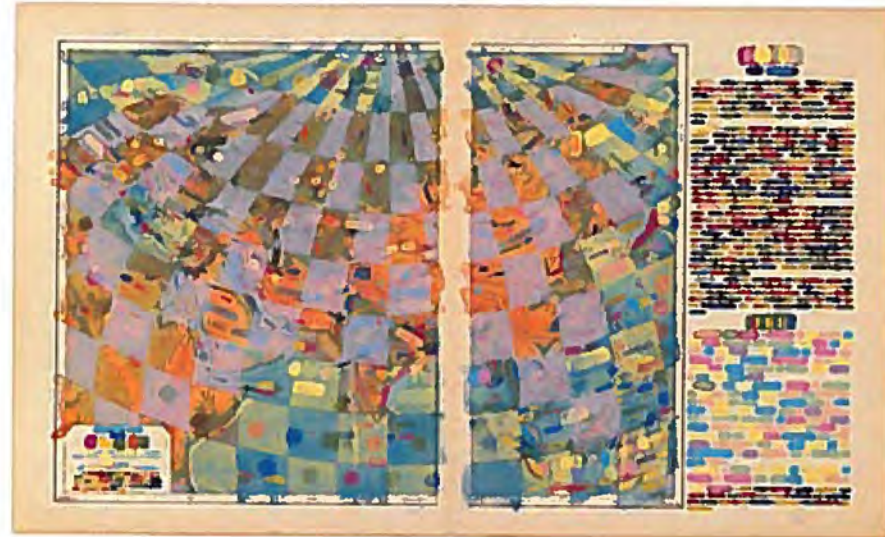
DAN MILLS ABOUT THE ART

Dan Mills was first drawn to the aesthetic beauty of maps and his appreciation for them grew as he continued to study cartography. He began to investigate notions of social and political bias in maps, and uncovered them in ways that enabled him to raise political issues, such as colonialism and imperialism, as well as make art. Mills' work is infused with satire and humor, and his range of mediums include collage, printmaking, painting and drawing.

Mills' 2009 exhibition *US Future States Atlas* commented on the state of the world through a visual language, using maps and symbols to present certain political issues. Mills depicts two states in his collection, one of a collaged "future" state and the other is of a comparable existing state. He uses various methods and media to alter existing maps, creating collages with materials that mimic topography, as well as painting opaque and flat patches over the maps.

In the 2012 exhibition *Quest*, Mills continued to collage maps, but introduced undertones of checkerboard patterns and layers of more dramatic colors, creating rich textures and meaning. Mills examines maps as an art form, arguing that their construction relies more on human intuition and individual perspective than geographical fact.

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DAN MILLS
Erasure (Warm), 2012
acrylic on printed map on paper
22 1/2 x 30 inches



DAN MILLS
Beacon, 1998
acrylic and collage on map
51 1/2 x 65 x 2 inches

ABOUT THE PROGRAM Metropolitan Capital has maintained a commitment to exhibit Chicago artists in the historic Tree Studios. Art Works Chicago: A Progressive Corporate Exhibition of Chicago Artists is a program that features exhibitions of work by prominent Chicago-based artists displayed in the workplace setting.

As a strong supporter of programs like Chicago Artists' Month and VISION, Metropolitan Capital offers local artists a forum to help develop a wider network and to connect with new audiences. This program features three to four different established artists throughout the year whose mounted exhibitions are available to travel to other business locations. These exhibitions provide an opportunity for employees and visitors to personally meet the artist and better understand the art-making process through a comprehensive exhibit of work, artist presentations and written information.

This exhibition series is organized by Nixon Art Associates, Inc., an independent art advisor. For the past 20 years, Nixon Art Associates, Inc. has developed and managed art collections for a number of companies including UBS Financial Services, Bank of America, the Leo Burnett Company, The Boeing Corporation, Blue Cross Blue Shield and U.S. Equities Realty, Inc. For more information about this program, please contact Nixon Art Associates, Inc. at 312.630.9797.

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