



NARWHAL ART PROJECTS PRESENTS

# THE TAXALI 300

GARY TAXALI SOLO EXHIBITION

OPENING RECEPTION:

**Thursday January 28th 2010**  
**6-9pm**

LOCATION:

**NARWHAL ART PROJECTS**  
**680 Queen St. West Toronto ON Canada**

EXHIBITION DATES:

**Jan 28 - Feb 28, 2010**

Narwhal Art Projects is pleased to present *The Taxali 300*, a solo exhibition with Gary Taxali. Celebrating Gary's career as a commercial illustrator, *The Taxali 300* showcases hundreds of small illustrations and collages originally created for such esteemed publications as Rolling Stone, Newsweek, The New York Times, GQ and McSweeney's among others. Spanning two decades and multiple awards and accolades, *The Taxali 300* presents Gary's exceptional collection of commercial illustration as a complete body of work in a gallery setting for the first time, allowing viewers to appreciate the prolific scope of visual communications and tactile character design intrinsically associated with Gary Taxali's artwork. *The Taxali 300* runs from January 28 - February 28. There will be an opening reception on January 28 from 6-9pm. Gary Taxali will be in attendance.

### **Artist Lecture with Gary Taxali** **Mon Feb 22 from 7-9pm**

This will be an in depth lecture with Gary with limited seating available. \$10 admission, \$5 with a valid student ID. Please rsvp to 647-346-5317 or [contact@narwhalartprojects.com](mailto:contact@narwhalartprojects.com) to reserve a ticket.

For more information, artwork viewing or to schedule a press preview:

**Kristin Weckworth, Director**  
[kristin@narwhalartprojects.com](mailto:kristin@narwhalartprojects.com)  
647.346.5317

## The Taxali 300 Artist Bio

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## The Taxali 300 Selected Artwork

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### BIOGRAPHY

Gary Taxali is an award-winning illustrator whose work has appeared in every major magazine and newspaper. Gary has exhibited all over the world, participating in many solo and group shows in both galleries and museums throughout North America and Europe. In 2005, he launched his first vinyl toy, *The Toy Monkey*, which included a special edition along with a silkscreen print commissioned by The Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City. This led Gary to create his own toy company, *Chump Toys*, which recently saw the release of his *OH NO* and *OH OH* vinyl figures. Aside from his gallery shows and illustration work, Gary also devotes a portion of his time teaching and lecturing at various arts organizations and schools. He is a Founding Member of IPA (The Illustrators' Partnership of America) and sits on the Advisory Board of 3x3: The Magazine of Contemporary Illustration. Currently, Gary is writing and illustrating his first children's book entitled *This Is Silly* which is being published by Scholastic and slated for a Summer 2010 release. Gary recently created the cover art and inside illustrations for Aimee Mann's new album *@#%&\*! Smilers*, which won a 2009 Grammy Award Nomination for Best Package Design. Born in India, Gary currently lives and works in Toronto, Canada. Gary has exhibited with Magic Pony and Narwhal Art Projects since 2005.

### CLIENTS

Rolling Stone, GQ, Esquire, Time, Newsweek, Fortune, The New York Times, Entertainment Weekly, Fast Company, Reader's Digest, Business Week, Warner Bros., Paramount Pictures, Converse, Levi's, Sony, McSweeney's, MTV, Coca-Cola.

### AWARDS

American Illustration, Communication Arts Illustration Annual, Society of Illustrators (Gold Medal), Print, Society of Publication Designers, National Magazine Awards (Gold Medal), Chicago Creative Club, The Advertising and Design Club of Canada, National Gold Addy and Shortlist for a Cannes Lion.

*"While other artists gravitate towards a clean, smooth surface of vellum or paper or canvas Taxali searches out found papers, old textbooks, and antique books to draw upon. Purposefully leaving the marks that come with age, there is certain spirituality to the work surfaces. While the source of the book or paper isn't important to the concept of the drawing it does import a sense of the past not found in other artist's illustrations. There is a sense of history in this work, a reliance of things past, yet there is no specific date to his work, you don't look at it and think the 30s, 40s or 50s, though you know it wasn't done yesterday, or was it? Like the ancient artists in the Grotte Chauvet, surface is key. But Gary's work is the antithesis of their approach, Taxali would be more likely to leave the drawings alone and simply add his hand-drawn type as homage to their ancient marks. He would revere their touch to the surface yet make it his own."*

### Charles Hively, Publisher and Editor

3x3, The Magazine of Contemporary Illustration  
New York, NY

