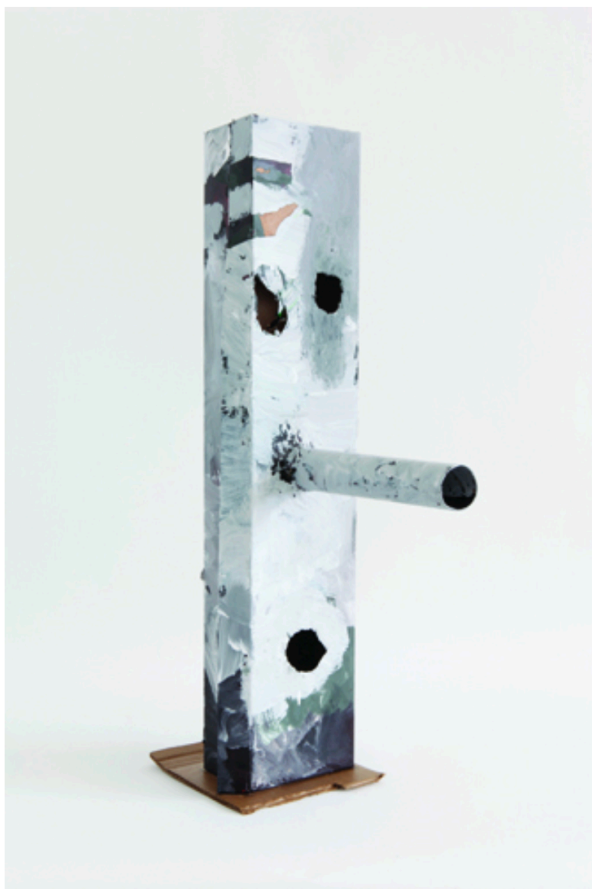


Artforum

Nickas, Bob: *Mark Grotjahn*

February 2012

ARTFORUM



Mark Grotjahn, *Untitled (Skinny Big Nose Mask 43.12)*, 2011, acrylic and collage on cardboard, 29 1/2 x 6 1/2 x 14 1/2".

ASPEN

Mark Grotjahn

ASPEN ART MUSEUM

637 East Hyman

February 17–April 29, 2012

Curated by Heidi Zuckerman Jacobson

Mark Grotjahn's first major museum survey will bring together the seemingly polar temperaments of the artist's work—the sublime cool of his abstract "Butterfly" paintings (with which he is most closely associated) and the emotional heat of his gnarly, primitivistic figurations. Each speaks to the artist's distinctive handling of paint, surface, and chromatics that can appear both subtly modulated and highly expressive, no matter what the final image. The catalogue will debut essays on the artist's work by Jacobson and Barry Schwabsky, and the twenty-two paintings in this exhibition—all made in the past thirteen

years—will be watched over by one of five new large-scale sculptural masks, the rest of which will be installed on nearby mountaintops and should help to melt the Aspen snow come spring.

— *Bob Nickas*