

# locustprojects

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## **\*\*MEDIA ALERT\*\***

### **Locust Projects' 20th Anniversary Retrospective Publication Awarded First Prize for Exhibition Catalogue Design by the American Alliance of Museums Publication Design Competition**



[October 1, 2019, MIAMI] *Locust Projects: The 20th Anniversary Retrospective* has been awarded First Prize in the category for Exhibition Catalogues in the American Alliance of Museums Publication Design Competition. Selected out of 350 submissions in 12 print categories, The 20th Anniversary Retrospective is designed by Miami-based Ilona Oppenheim's Creative Studio and produced by Oppenheim's firm, Tra Publishing.

The volume celebrates Locust Projects' twentieth anniversary year in 2018 with a comprehensive visual record of past exhibitions and projects, a timeline, milestone texts and quotes from participating artists. The innovative book design is as unique and experimental as the institution itself, reflecting Locust Projects' experiments with convention through unique layouts and a playful exploration of visual design.

"To receive an American Alliance of Museums' Publications Design award is incredible recognition for Locust Projects and for Ilona Creative Studio and Tra Publishing. As a museum professional I have followed this award for more than twenty years and know well the esteemed company this award has placed Tra and Locust in nationally and could not be more proud." said Lorie Mertes, Executive Director of Locust Projects.

In the Museum Publications Design Competition, the only national, juried competition of its kind, winners are chosen for their overall design excellence, creativity, and ability to express an institution's personality, mission, or special features. The 20th Anniversary Retrospective has received this award together with institutional peers at the Art Institute of Chicago and the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC.

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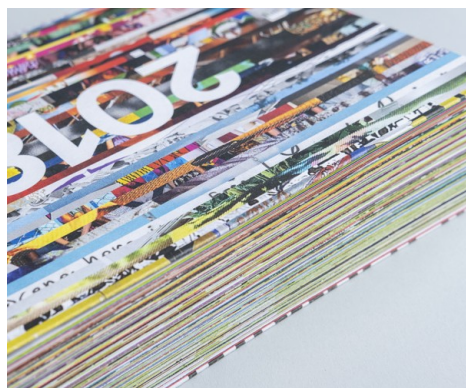
“In designing this book, we took our lead from Locust Projects’ commitment to artistic experimentation and pushing boundaries. We wanted the book to honor the organization’s history and impressive accomplishments while also conveying its ethos,” says Ilona Oppenheim, publisher and creative director of Tra Publishing. “The result is a print record as unique as the institution itself, featuring unconventional layouts and a playful exploration of visual design.”

An homage to Locust Projects’ twenty-year history as a leading venue and voice in the alternative art scene, the book highlights the organization’s tradition of encouraging artists, at all stages of their careers, to experiment and push the boundaries of their practices. Among artists featured are Daniel Arsham, Matthew Brannon, Nathan Carter, William Cordova, Nicole Eisenman, Martha Friedman, Theaster Gates, Liam Gillick, Francesca DiMattio, Jim Drain, Kori Newkirk, Ruben Ochoa, Jon Pylypchuk, Martine Syms and Simón Vega, and Antonia Wright.

Locust Projects: The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Retrospective  
Publication Date: May 7, 2019 Paperback, 360 pages;  
299 color photographs, 9.6 x 7.6 in. \$50 US (\$70 CAN)  
The publication is available at [www.trapublishing.com](http://www.trapublishing.com)

## ABOUT TRA PUBLISHING

Tra Publishing creates beautifully crafted books about fine and decorative arts, architecture, and design that inspire social, cultural, and environmental awareness. Particular emphasis is placed on the physical components of the bookmaking process, resulting in books that are both works of art and modes of expression. Based in Miami, Tra was founded in 2016 by graphic designer and author Ilona Oppenheim. The publishing company works closely and often collaboratively with its artists and writers, treating each title as an entirely original experience. Tra is passionate about books, and passionate about the contribution each book can make. As part of that commitment, proceeds of many of Tra’s titles are donated to environmental, arts, and activist organizations. Tra’s books are distributed worldwide through Simon & Schuster. For more information visit [www.trapublishing.com](http://www.trapublishing.com). Follow Tra on Instagram @trapublishing.



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## **ABOUT LOCUST PROJECTS**

Founded by artists for artists in 1998, Locust Projects is Miami's longest running nonprofit alternative art space. We produce, present, and nurture ambitious and experimental new art and the exchange of ideas through commissioned exhibitions and projects, artist residencies, summer art intensives for teens, and public programs on contemporary art and curatorial practice. As a leading incubator of new art and ideas, Locust Projects emphasizes boundary-pushing creative endeavors, risk-taking and experimentation by local, national and international artists. We invest in South Florida's arts community by providing artists with project grants and empower creative careers by supporting the administrative work of being an artist through an onsite artist resource hub and access to pro bono legal services.

Locust Projects exhibitions and programming are made possible with support from: The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners; The National Endowment for the Arts Art Works Grant; Hillsdale Fund; The State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture; Kirk Foundation; Funding Arts Network; and the Wege Foundation; Team LAB and Locust Projects Exhibitionist and Significant Other members.

**ART HAPPENS HERE.**