

CRISTIN TIERNEY



Tim Youd retyping Patricia Highsmith's *Those Who Walk Away*. Casa Artom, Wake Forest University, Venice, Italy, May 2017. Photo credit: Paul Bright.

New York, NY (April 20, 2017) – [Cristin Tierney Gallery](#) is pleased to announce a special performance of Tim Youd's *100 Novels* project at the Ara Pacis Augustae in Rome, Italy. From May 24th through June 4th, Youd will retype John Williams' epistolary novel *Augustus* daily in the Museo dell'Ara Pacis, which houses the ancient Roman monument. This performance is the 50th novel to be typed in the series, and is one of several that Youd will undertake in Italy this spring and summer, including projects in Portofino, Stresa, and with Hanes Art Gallery of Wake Forest University during the 57th Venice Biennale.

For his retyping of John Williams' novel *Augustus*, which chronicles the Roman emperor's rise to power through imagined letters sent amongst and between his inner circle, Youd will stage his performance at one of the major monuments from Augustus' reign: the Ara Pacis. An altar dedicated to the Roman goddess of Peace, the Ara Pacis celebrated the stability Augustus restored to Rome following the assassination of Julius Caesar and subsequent chaotic infighting by ruling military dictators. Using Williams' favored Royal 10 typewriter, Youd will perform beside the iconic monument in the Richard Meier-designed building, which sits on the banks of the River Tiber adjacent to the Mausoleum of Augustus.

Each novel in Youd's performances is retyped on a single sheet of paper, which is laid on top of a second sheet and run repeatedly through the typewriter. Upon completion, the two sheets are separated and mounted side-by-side as a diptych. They serve as a relic of the performance, containing all of the artist's keystrokes within a rectangular form mimicking two pages of an open book. When Youd finishes retyping *Augustus*, all of the words of the novel will be present in the two sheets of paper, but they will be entirely illegible.

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In addition to his performance in Rome, Youd will retype several other books in Italy, including Elizabeth Von Arnim's *The Enchanted April* at Castello Brown in Portofino, Ernest Hemingway's *A Farewell to Arms* at the Grand Hotel des Iles Borromees—a hotel Hemingway made famous—on Lake Maggiore in Stresa, and Patricia Highsmith's *Those Who Walk Away* at the 19th century Casa Artom on the Grand Canal in Venice. The latter is slated to run during the Venice Biennale previews, and is curated by Paul Bright of Hanes Art Gallery, Wake Forest University. The diptychs created during Youd's "Italian cycle" will travel, with select drawings and paintings, to the Hanes Art Gallery for a solo exhibition in fall 2017. A *100 Novels* performance will also be held at The Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center at Vassar College in 2018.

Youd (b. 1967, Worcester, MA) is presently retyping 100 novels over a ten-year period while concurrently compiling a body of related paintings, drawings, and sculptures. To date, he has retyped 48 novels at various locations in the United States and Europe. He has been in residence at various historic writer's homes, including William Faulkner's Rowan Oak with the University of Mississippi Art Museum (Oxford, MS), Flannery O'Connor's Andalusia with SCAD (Milledgeville and Savannah, GA), and Virginia Woolf's Monk's House (Rodmell, Sussex). His work has been the subject of numerous museum exhibitions, including the New Orleans Museum of Art, Hong-Gah Museum, Monterey Museum of Art, Hemingway-Pfeiffer Museum, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, University of Mississippi Art Museum at Rowan Oak, and the Lancaster Museum of Art and History. He has presented and performed his *100 Novels* project at Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (LACE) and LAXART, and in January 2017 he finished retyping Joe Orton's *Collected Plays* at The Queen's Theatre with MOCA London. He lives and works in Los Angeles.

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