

CRISTIN TIERNEY

Visual and performance artist

[Tim Youd](#)

to bring his acclaimed 100 Novels project
to Germany and Denmark this fall by typing:

Kurt Vonnegut's Slaughterhouse-Five
at the [Albertinum Museum](#), the [Dresden City Museum](#), and [The Museum of
Military History](#) in Dresden, Germany, October 8-16, 2019

Karen Blixen's Out of Africa at the
[Karen Blixen Museum](#) in Rungsted, Denmark,
October 20 - November 3, 2019

Margaret Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale
in Berlin, November 2019



Image 1: Tim Youd retyping Patricia Highsmith's Those Who Walk Away (2017).
Image 2: completed diptych - "Patricia Highsmith's Those Who Walk Away; 250 pages retyped on an Olympia SM3 at Casa Artom, Venice, Italy; May 2017".

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Los Angeles, CA. (August 19, 2019) Visual and performance artist [Tim Youd](#) is bringing his acclaimed “100 Novels” project to Germany and Denmark this fall. To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the publication of Kurt Vonnegut’s [Slaughterhouse-Five](#), Youd is retyping the novel at locations in Dresden, including the [Albertinum Museum](#) and the [Dresden City Museum](#), from October 8-16, 2019. Then, from October 20 through November 3, Youd will retype Karen Blixen’s [Out of Africa](#) at the [Karen Blixen Museum](#) in Rungsted, Denmark. Tim Youd will also be retyping Margaret Atwood’s [The Handmaid’s Tale](#) in Berlin, exact dates and location to be announced.

To date, **Tim Youd** has retyped 62 novels at locations across the world, each performance site relating in some way to the subject novel. Using the same make and model of typewriter the author used, Youd retypes each book on a single sheet of paper, which is laid on top of a second sheet of paper and run repeatedly through the typewriter—an action he conceived of after realizing that reading a book is essentially looking at “a rectangle of black text inside the larger white rectangle.” Through his performances, he dramatically compresses each book, and exhibits the battered, ink-saturated pages as a diptych.

Kurt Vonnegut’s [Slaughterhouse-Five](#) is his anti-war masterpiece. Vonnegut was a prisoner of war in Dresden during the Allied firebombing of the city, and was housed in a slaughterhouse. Vonnegut wrote this novel after struggling for many years to make sense of the destruction of Dresden and his own unlikely survival. He wrote on an Olivetti Studio 44 typewriter.

Karen Blixen lived for many years in Kenya on land she and her husband farmed for coffee. When her husband left Africa, she remained and made a life of many years on the plantation. When the plantation finally failed, she returned to her family estate in Denmark, where she wrote [Out of Africa](#), her great memoir of her time in Kenya. The Corona 3 typewriter on which she composed is displayed at the museum, which is housed in her former home.

Margaret Atwood was living in West Berlin in 1984 when she wrote her dystopian masterpiece [The Handmaid’s Tale](#). She has noted how the then bleak atmosphere of the Cold War seeped into her story. Atwood wrote her first draft in longhand, and then transcribed it, using an Olympia SG-3 typewriter. Olympia typewriters were German-made, and Atwood remembers her machine as having the German keyboard layout—QWERTZ instead of QWERTY.

About Tim Youd

A performance and visual artist, Tim Youd is presently engaged in the retyping of 100 novels over a ten-year period. Over a seven year period, he has retyped 62 novels at various locations in the United States and Europe. His work has been the subject of solo museum exhibitions at the CAM St. Louis, MCA San Diego, New Orleans Museum of Art, Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center at Vassar College, Hanes Art Gallery at Wake Forest University, and the Lancaster Museum of Art and History. In 2021, his work will be the subject of a solo show at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tucson. Youd has been in residence at various writer’s historic homes, including William Faulkner’s Rowan Oak (Oxford, MS), Flannery O’Connor’s Andalusia (Milledgeville, GA), the Hemingway-Pfeiffer House (Piggott, AR), the National Steinbeck Center (Salinas), and Virginia Woolf’s Monk’s House (Rodmell, Sussex). He has presented and performed his “100 Novels” project at Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (LACE), LAXART and the Museo dell’Ara Pacis (Rome). He is represented by Cristin Tierney Gallery in New York. Youd lives and works in Los Angeles.

For more information, contact:

Jennifer Gross
Evolutionary Media Group
323-658-8700
Jennifer@emgpr.com

