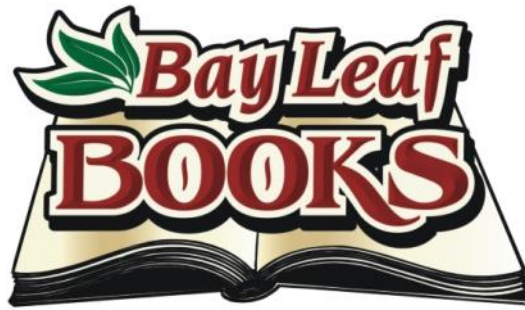


This is NOT A TOY

Designer Vinyl & New Art



Bay Leaf Books, ABAA
eList 23 - April 2018



eList 23 ~ This is Not a Toy ~ March 2018

If the terms *Munny*, *Dunny*, *Labbit*, or *Qee* are in your vocabulary, then you're probably aware of the art toy subculture. If not, it can seem like an odd world where vinyl rabbits are arranged in display cases like sculpture, and collectors wait in line for hours to have graphic designers sharpie their signatures across the heads of their plastic figures. But an explanation of designer toys is actually pretty simple, "limited edition art objects that are designed [...] by artists of all kinds, from all fields of art and graphic design."¹

The art toy world, which has enjoyed tremendous sales growth over the last several years,² has become a major form of expression for a select group of designers and street artists. Some contemporary artists have taken advantage of the designer toy form to expand on characters they have developed through their art, like Mike Egan, whose popular *Bones* character grew from the artist's folk-pop paintings of doom and gloom (see items 4 and 16). The DIY ethic is strong in the art toy community where base figures—like the *Dunny*, a kind of a cartoony rabbit figure—are used as starting points for the designer's individual vision. Kidrobot, one of the most popular designer toy companies, even produces blank *Dunnys*, so anyone can pick up some markers or paints and become the artist. Like books, there are some art toys that are truly limited, with a run of only 10, 50 or 100 pieces, while some mass-produced toys are only limited—again, like books—to the number that they can sell.

The movement has spawned dedicated galleries, like Clutter in Beacon, New York, and Rotofugi in Chicago, powerhouse design firms like Kidrobot, Funko and TOY2R, and a host of books that feature toys as art (or art as toys), and the designers who create them. What follows is a short list of books on the world of designer toys, and a few toys as well. Enjoy...

On the Cover: Item No. 25

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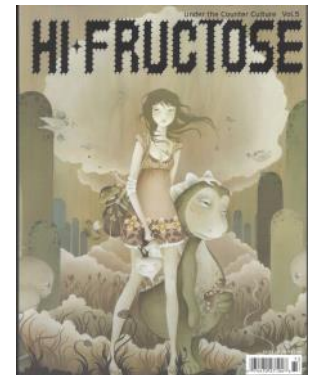
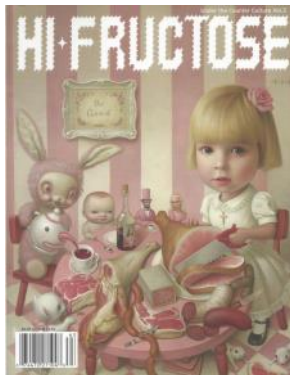
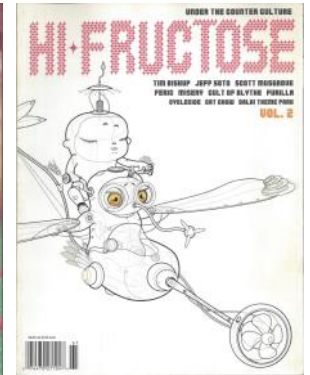
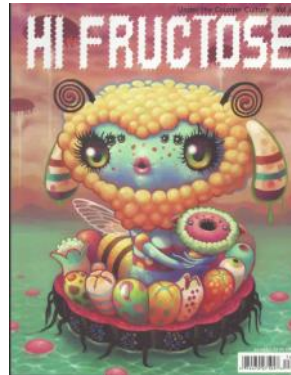
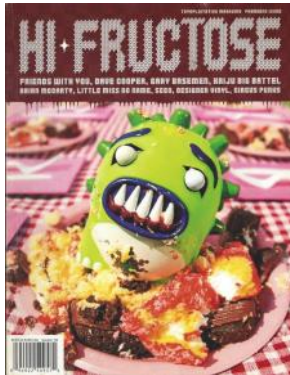
Terms: All items are packed and posted with care. Unless otherwise noted, domestic shipping via Media Mail is \$5.00 for the first item, and \$1.00 for each additional item (adjustments are made for small booklets, pamphlets, bookplates, etc.). Priority rates are available. Foreign shipping is billed at cost. **Note: Toys will be posted via USPS First Class or Priority Mail, depending on weight, and shipped at cost.**

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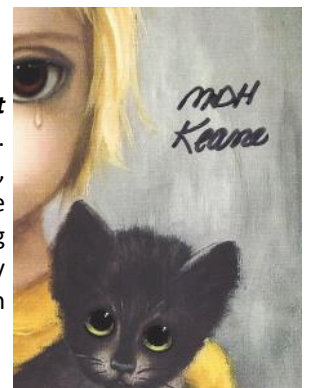
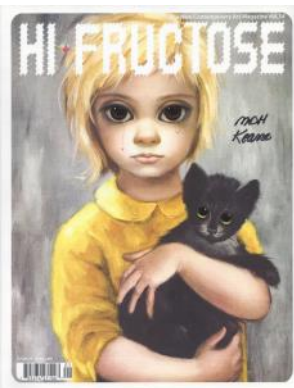
A Forty Issue Run of *Hi-Fructose*

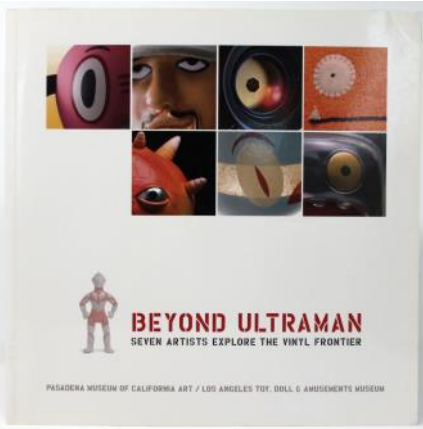
1. Attaboy; Annie Owens, eds. *Hi-Fructose: The New Contemporary Art Magazine, Vols. 1 – 40*. Albany, CA/Richmond, CA: OuchFactory YumClub, Vol. 1, Summer 2005 – Vol. 40, 2016. Wraps, 21.2 by 27.6 cm, 96-122 pp. each, plus inserts, heavily illus. The first two issues have light wear to the covers with minor rubbing to the corners and edges; the covers of the second issue are lightly yellowed. The remaining issues, Vols. 3 – 40, are fine, or near fine with a few lightly bumped corners here and there. The first few issues of *Hi-Fructose*, which was founded by artists Attaboy and Annie Owens in 2005, focused on new art and designer toys. However, they very quickly shifted their focus from a “Toysploitation Magazine,” to an “Under the Counter Culture” journal with their eyes “squarely on the art which transcends genre and trend [...] an amalgamation of new contemporary, emerging as well as distinguished artists, with a spotlight on awe inspiring spectacles from round the world.” Still in publication, they are one of the most respected contemporary art mags on the rack, and regularly feature some of the most bold and important artists working today, including Tara McPherson, Mark Ryden, Luke Chueh, Mars-1, Brian McCarty, Gary Baseman, SEEN, Tim Biskup, Attaboy, Ron English, Space Invader, Susan Siegel, Elizabeth Hickok, Greg “Craola” Simkins, Chris Ware, Jenny Bird, Joe Ledbetter, PShaw!, Ekundayo, Sam Gibbons, Camilla d’Errico, Mandy Greer, Glen Barr, Charlie Immer, Michael Hussar, JinYoung Yu, Michael Page, Amy Sol, Brendan Tang, APAK, Brian Dettmer, Xiao Qing Ding, Yoskay Yamamoto, and hundreds more. *Hi-Fructose* focuses on artist profiles and interviews; and stylistically it is a stunning production, printed on heavy paper and featuring many full-page full-color images, as well as two-page spreads. Sixteen of the issues in this run feature bound-in single-artist inserts or various sizes, including James Jean, Jeff Soto, Stéphane Blanquet, Marco Mazzoni, Mark Ryden, Femke Hiemstra, Camile Rose Garcia, Al Columbia, Travis Louie, Kazuki Takamatsu, Gary Taxali, Renée French, Winnie Truong, Kate MacDowell, and Charlie Immer, as well as an insert for the “Turn the Page” exhibit at Virginia MOCA (see item no. 13). \$2500



Signed by Margaret Keane

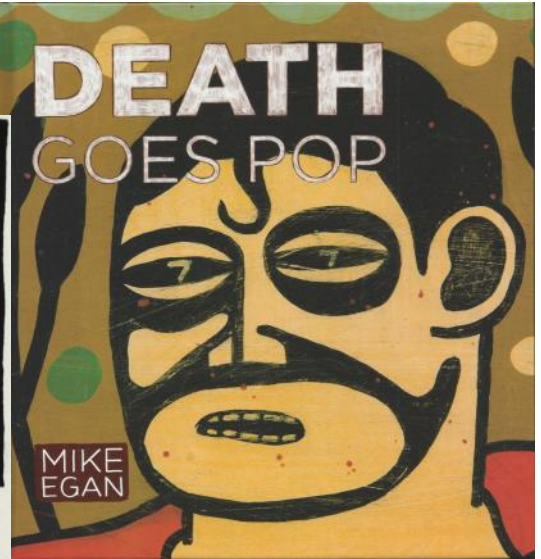
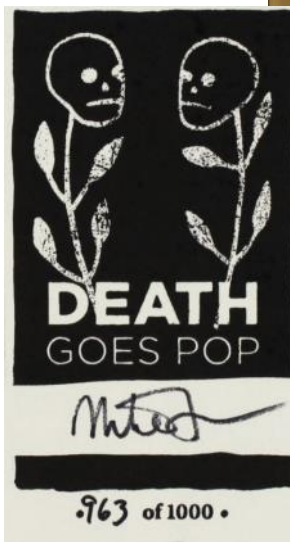
2. Attaboy; Annie Owens, eds. *Hi-Fructose: The New Contemporary Art Magazine, Vol. 34*. Richmond, CA: OuchFactory YumClub, Vol. 34, 2015. Wraps, 21.2 by 27.6 cm, 114 pp. plus 16-page bound-in Gary Taxali insert, heavily illus. Fine. Signed on the cover by Margaret Keane, who was at the forefront of the 1960s “Big Eyes” art movement. This issue also includes Faig Ahmed, Joanne Nam, Patrick Dougherty, Tricia Cline, Jonathan Viner, Gary Taxali, Tristan Eaton, Kris Kuksi, Floria Sigismondi, and a ten-page feature on Keane. \$120.00





3. Cheng, Shirlae; Maria Kwong; Jenkins Shannon; Ian Vartanian. **Beyond Ultraman: Seven Artists Explore the Vinyl Frontier**. Los Angeles: Baby Tattoo Books for the Pasadena Museum of California Art and the Los Angeles Toy, Doll & Amusements Museum, 2007, first ed. Glossy, sewn wraps, 25.3 by 25.3 cm, 64 pp., illus. Light wear to the covers and corners, and a faint crease near the center of the covers which can be seen throughout most of the volume. A well-illustrated exhibition guide featuring Gary Baseman, Tim Biskup, David Gonzales, David Horvath, Sun-Min Kim, Brian McCarty, and Mark Nagata. "A historic generator of American counterculture, California has become the landing site for Asian toy culture as well. *Beyond Ultraman* examines the vinyl art toy landscape as seen through the work of seven Californian artists who reflect that movement, turning art into toys and vice versa. Through originality, wit, flippancy and brilliance, each artist represented here has elevated the vinyl art toy movement and captured the attention of two audiences: the mainstream art community and the toy community." \$10

4. Egan, Mike. **Death Goes Pop**. [Pittsburgh]: Mike Egan, 2013, no. 963 of 1000 signed and numbered copies. Glossy illustrated boards, 20.8 by 21 cm, [50] pp., illus. Fine, unread copy. Published in conjunction with his show of the same name at the 2013 San Diego Comic Con, this book features fifty of Egan's Pop Icon paintings, including morbid—yet folksy—renditions of Hello Kitty, the Hulk, Yoda, Godzilla, He-Man, Minnie and Mickey Mouse, etc. "Drawing inspiration from the world of Folk Art, Mike focuses on giving a raw simplicity to the shapes and motifs he paints, and renders them with intentionally naive brushstrokes; these all-important stylistic touches add to the handmade feel of his work. While Egan's subject matter may be dark, he contrasts this with a bold visual aesthetic filled with bright color and a certain playfulness, which successfully injects an element of hope into the otherwise somber themes."³ No text, only color images. While Egan is primarily a painter, some of his designs have been made into vinyl figures, including some in collaboration with Frank Kozik. See also item no. 16. \$20

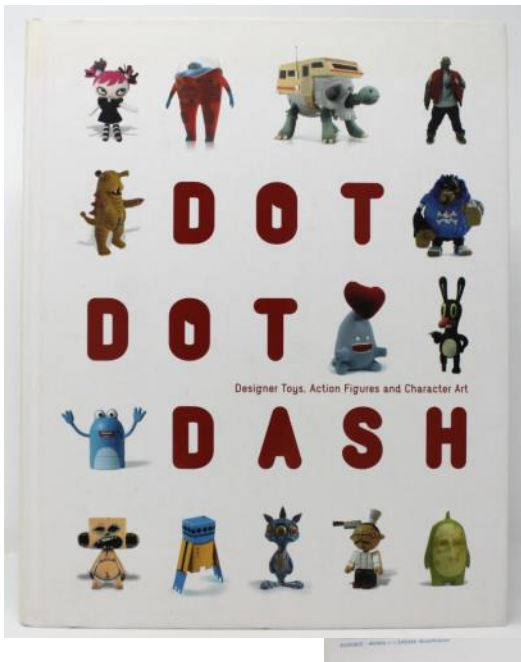
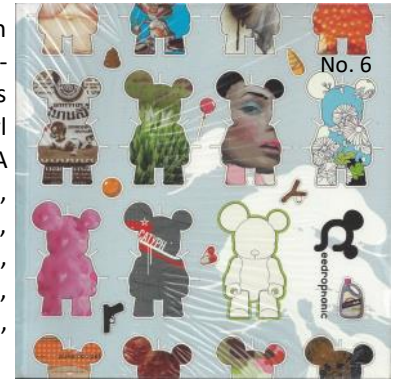


5. Gee, Huck; Brett Bryan; Paul Bunditz, intro. **The Art of Huck Gee**. Np: Prestop Art Inc., 2011, first ed. Orange cloth with bright gilt spine titles and Gee's trademark skull blindstamped on the front cover, 22.8 by 16 cm, 147 pp. plus index, illus. Fine. Mark "Huck" Gee is a San Francisco-based contemporary artist, illustrator, toy maker, and designer. His artwork has been exhibited in galleries and auction houses worldwide and several of his designs are in the permanent collection of New York's Museum of Modern Art. "Huck has been a driving force in the international art toy movement since 2002 and is widely praised for the epic toy worlds that he creates, including Skullhead, Gold Life & The Dapper Little Scoundrels, which are major themes of his artwork." After Bunditz's three-page introduction, there is no text, only color images of Gee's art and vinyl figures, many of which are pictured with staged backdrops. A stunning collection. \$25



6. Hazelmyer, Tom, ed. **Qeedrophonic**. [Minneapolis]: Ox-Op Press, 2004. Wraps, 19 by 19 cm, 96 pp., illus. New, still in the publisher's shrink-wrap with only the faintest signs of rubbing at the corners. Heavily illustrated designer toy exhibition guide: "What is Qeedrophonic? It's a series of one-of-a-kind Art Toys by 35 of today's most prominent artists, each masters in their fields from

fine art to graffiti, graphic design to movements undefined. Through a collaboration between Hong Kong's Toy2R and the Minneapolis-based Ox-Op Gallery, 'blank' Qees were painted, stenciled, altered, and customized by the artists for an exhibit that spanned from Minneapolis to Los Angeles and Tokyo..." "This is a vital piece/documentation covering the beginnings of the Vinyl Art Toy Movement and the Pop Surrealism Movement," says editor/publisher Hazelmeyer, AKA Haze XXL, and it includes work by Aesthetic Apparatus, Kii Arens, Oksana Badrak, Buff Monster, Glenn Barr, Gary Baseman, Tim Biskup, Dave Burke, David Choe, Saiman Chow, Clayton Brothers, CSA Design, Coop, Dave Cooper, Dalek, Mark Dancey, Fafi, Shepard Fairey (OBEY), Jaime Hayon, Seona Hong, Aaron Horkey, HOUSE Industries, Frank Kozik, Mad, Rob McBroom, Liz McGrath, Meomi, Mark Mothersbaugh, Niagara, Martin Ontiveros, The Pizz, Semper-Fi, Shag, Jeff Soto, Bwana Spoons, Gary Taxali, George Thompson, TILT, Touma & Eric White. \$25



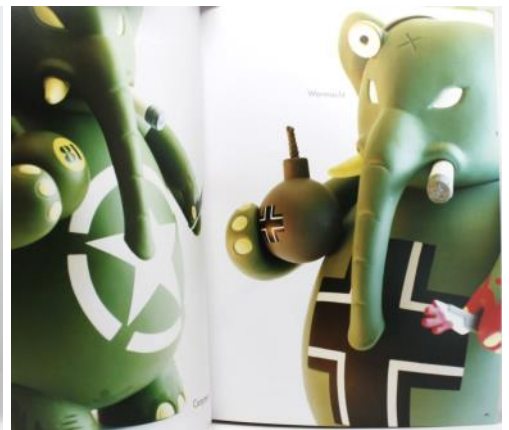
7. Klanten, Robert; Matthias Hübner, eds. **Dot Dot Dash: Designer Toys, Action Figures and Character Art.** Berlin: Die Gestalten Verlag, 2006, first English-language ed. Hardcover with illustrated boards, 24.5 by 30.5 cm, 295 pp. plus colophon, illus. Very good with minor corner bumping, a few small dings on the edges



of the boards, light yellowing on the spine and along the edges, and a small reddish stain on the top edge of the text block. Opening with two short essays and a two-page interview with Jim Crawford and Gregory Blum of STRANGEco, this volume is not unlike others in the genre of designer toys—short on text, long on amazing images. Arranged by artist or design firm, with an extensive address and design index at the back. From the publisher: "Expanding on the widely popular subject of contemporary character design, this definitive volume showcases an up-to-date survey of the personalities and characters that have entered the

third dimension. Vinyl figures, plush dolls, designer toys and action figures can be seen as a new movement in contemporary design, art and popular culture. Interest in these three-dimensional toys has surged, drawing on pop culture, graffiti and visual art. The new generation characters appear cute, cuddly and innocuous at first but are often illicit, subversive and politically incorrect. Not intended for child's play, they are highly esteemed by teens and adults alike. Each is a work of art, often created by world famous artists, and many of them are produced independently in limited editions and become highly sought-after collectibles [...] this volume exhibits the expansive scope of designs and objects in the ultimate compilation of contemporary character design." \$60

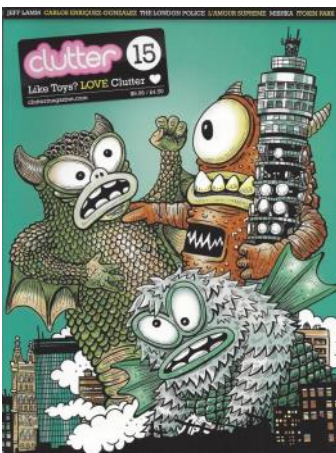
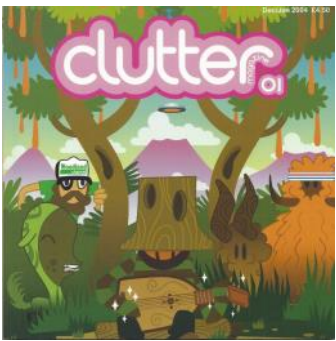
8. Kozik, Frank. **Plasticland.** Milwaukie, OR: Dark Horse Books, 2007, first ed. Hardcover with glossy, illustrated boards, 23.3 by 32.3 cm, 111 (1) pp., illus. Near fine. "The man credited with single-handedly reviving the concept of rock posters as an art form [including his posters for Nirvana, Pearl Jam, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers], Kozik was first exposed to the counterculture world of 'designer art toys' on a trip to Japan in 1996. His collecting hobby soon mutated into a new profession, and in 2002 Kozik made the leap from illustrator to toy designer. Now considered one of the world's top three underground toy designers, Kozik shares all the secrets of this arcane and cutting-edge art movement in *Plasticland* [...] the first collected work of Kozik's foray into this explosive new phenomenon, [and] a fascinating look at the creation and end result of modern toy design. A dazzling photographic record of all Kozik's production and custom pieces through early 2006, the book also features his new works in serigraphy and oil painting." Essentially no text beyond titles of the pieces and a few quotes here and there, but a lavishly illustrated collection of Kozik's work, including his Qee, Mau, El Brujo, Mongers, and Smorkin' Labbit series. \$20





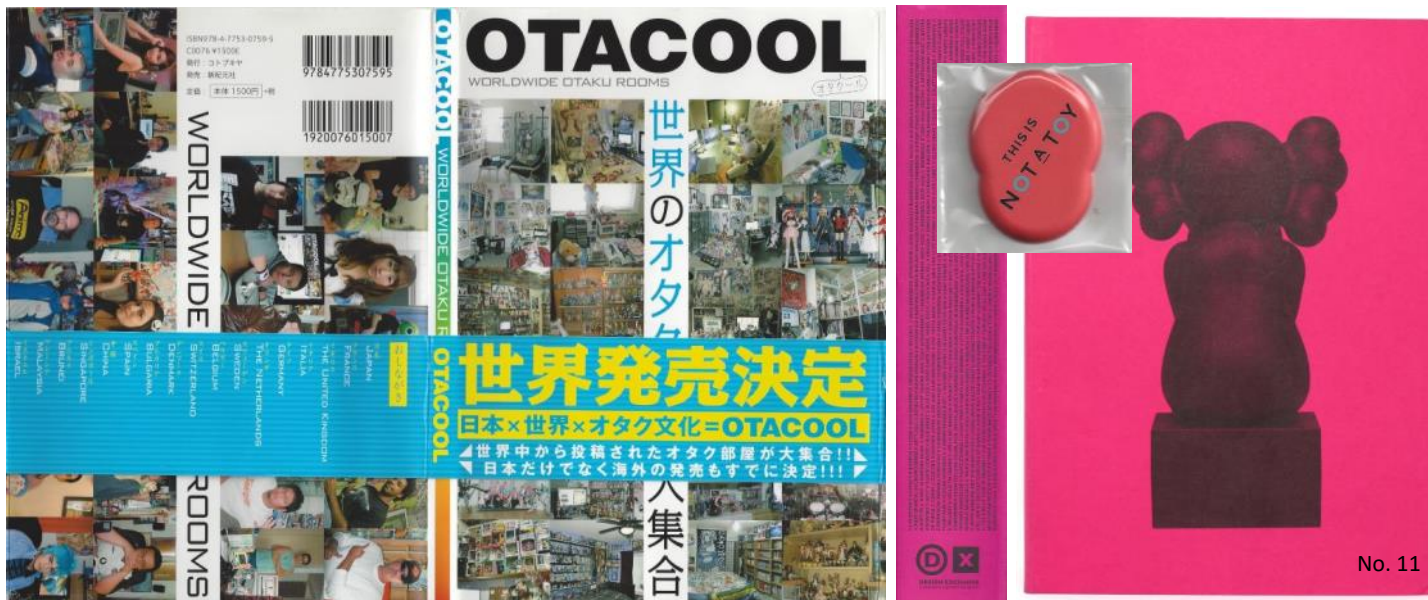
A Thirty-Nine Issue Run of Clutter + TOY2R Special Edition

9. O'Brien, Miranda; Nick Carroll, eds. *Clutter Magazine, Issues 1 – 40*. Coventry, UK/Staffordshire, UK/Shrub Oak, NY/Beacon, NY: Clutter Magazine/Clutter Media Group, Issue 1, December/January 2004/2005 – Issue 40, Fall 2016, lacking issue 3. Over its lifetime, *Clutter* has varied its format: Issues 1 – 7, perfect-bound, 20 by 20 cm, 60-72 pp. each; Issues 8 – 14, perfect-bound, 20 by 22.3 cm, 72 pp. each; Issues 15 – 18, perfect-bound, 20.7 by 27.6 cm, 64-72 pp. each; Issues 19 – 23, staple-bound, 20.5 by 27.8 cm, 64 pp. each; and Issues 24 – 40, staple-bound, 14 by 21.5 cm, 52-88 pp. each. All fine or near fine. *Clutter*, which was founded in the UK and moved to New York between issues 14 and 15, is the only extant print magazine solely dedicated to designer toys. The magazine focuses on interviews and artist profiles of the scene's top designers—as well as up-and-coming artists—convention coverage, new releases, the Designer Toy Awards—which are produced by *Clutter*—and columns intended for new collectors, like the “Designer Toys 101” series. A few of the many featured artists include Ron English, Frank Kozik, Carlos Enriquez-Gonzalez, Mishka, Jeff Lamm, James Jarvis, Tara McPherson, Otto Bjornik, Andrea Kang, Amanda Louise Spayd, Squink, Mike Strick, Simona Candini, Luke Chueh, Kelly Denato, Miranda O'Brien, WuzOne, Leslie Levings, Josh Mayhem, Mike Shinoda, David Flores, Crystal Jade Vaughn, Camila Valdez, James Groman, Dust, Gary Ham, Camilla D'Errico, Carson Catlin, Mark Nagata, Scribe, Holly Stanway, Jon-Paul Kaiser, Colus, Buff Monster, Kathie Olivias, Brandt Peters, Scott Wilkowski, Dolly Oblong, Kim Fung Wong, Kevin Eastman, Amanda Visell, Frank Montano, David Tenn, Scott Tolleson, Peter Kato, Loz Boz, RXSE7EN, and so, so many more. These striking, heavily-illustrated magazines are produced with full-color, glossy pages and even the adverts—which become more numerous with the later issues—are fascinating. *Clutter* has been available as a subscription, but starting with issue 19, it was available via paid subscription or available free at designer toy shops and galleries, like Rotofugi in Chicago and Kidrobot's retail stores. Due to the small circulation numbers, however, *Clutter* has become a scarce periodical. Also included is the *Clutter Magazine TOY2R Special Edition*. Coventry, UK: Clutter Magazine in cooperation with TOY2R (Holdings) Company Ltd., 2005. Hardcover with glossy, illustrated boards, 20.3 by 20.7 cm, 98 pp., illus., housed in a 35.5 by 23.5 cm box with a special edition 6 cm Qee figure. Book and figure are fine; box is fair with scuffs, scratches and corner wear. This book features a history of TOY2R, the Hong Kong-based brainchild of Raymond Choy. Founded in 1995, TOY2R was the first company to recognize the potential of designer toys and start producing them on a large scale. They are best known for their Qee platform, which resemble stylized bears. \$500



10. Tachikawa; Danny Choo. *Otacool: Worldwide Otaku Rooms*. Tokyo: Kotobukiya, 2009. Wraps with dust jacket and obi, 15 by 21 cm, 128 pp., illus. Near fine with only minor corner bumping. Heavily illustrated with color photos, *Otacool* features the rooms of 108 *otakus*, a Japanese term for people with obsessive interests, commonly the anime and manga fandom. The volume, with limited text in Japanese and English, opens with an interview with Danny Choo, best known for his *Culture Japan* blog and Smart Doll products. Through his blog, Choo enlisted his followers to submit photos of

their collections for this book. Featured are otakus from England, Germany, Spain, China, Israel, Malaysia, Australia, Brazil, several from Japan and the United States, etc. \$25



11. Tom, John Wee; Sara Nickleson, curators; with Douglas Coupland, Murray Whyte, Pharrell Williams, et al. **This is Not a Toy.** Toronto: Design Exchange, 2014, limited edition of 1000. Sewn wraps with card jacket and vinyl “This is Not a Toy” cover device, 14.2 by 20 cm, 445 pp., heavily illus. in full color. Near fine, but with minor bumping to the lower corner; the vinyl device still in the original sleeve (not affixed to the cover). From the publisher: “a spectacular survey of contemporary art and collectible design inspired by the Design Exchange exhibition, guest curated by Pharrell Williams with John Wee Tom and Sara Nickleson. This substantial publication is an even deeper consideration of some of the exhibition's themes, including an exploration of the allure and mystique of the art toy; the accessibility of art; designer toys as portals to an artist's oeuvre and the wider art world; and urban vinyl's unique relevance and significance in contemporary culture ... includes thoughtful essays from several contributors including artist, thinker and pop-culture guru Douglas Coupland, Toronto Star art critic Murray Whyte and Magic Pony's Kristin Weckworth, along with artist biographies and over 200 selected works with complete descriptions from KAWS, Takashi Murakami, Yoshitomo Nara, FriendsWithYou, Frank Kozik, Coarse, Huck Gee and many more - plus there's an exclusive interview with Pharrell Williams.” An impressive representation of this landmark exhibition. \$250



12. Vartanian, Ivan; Lesley A. Martin, contributing editor. **Full Vinyl: The Subversive Art of Designer Toys.** New York: Collins Design, 2006, first ed. Paper-covered corrugated boards with a paper title label on the front cover, and a vinyl keychain set into a plastic compartment in the front cover, 18.3 by 25.5 cm, 207 pp. plus colophon, illus. Fair with dents and chips to the edges of the corrugated cardboard, light rubbing, softened corners, bumping and wear to the extremities, and bumping to the lower corner of the text block. From the back cover: “With more than 400 exciting examples, *Full Vinyl* is the first comprehensive and definitive history of these addictive and designer art toys,



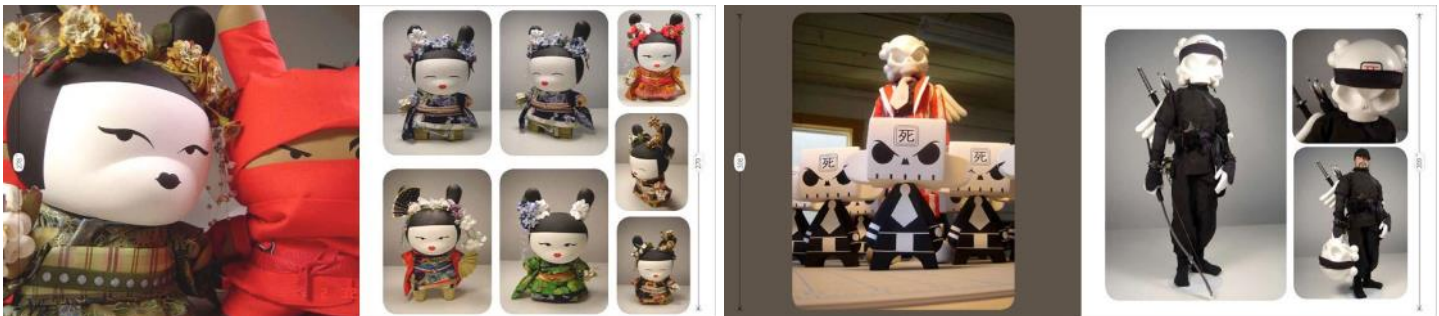
[providing] a virtual global vinyl tour, from the backstreets of Tokyo’s Harajuku district to the worlds of skater culture and graffiti in New York.” Chapters include “The Subversive Toy,” “A Subculture Joins the Mainstream,” “Creating a Vibrant Global Community of Toy Enthusiasts,” “Never Mind the Vinyl: The Character of UK Designer Toys,” “Vinyl Rules: Surrogate Sculptures and the Manufacture of Identity,” “Ningyo, Figure, and Sculpture: Overlaps and Intertwinings in Modern Japan,” “Old School Kaiju,” and “Controlled Scarcity: The Making of a Collectable.” Essayists include Akio Lida, Carlo McCormick, Noi Sawaragi, Andrea Robbins, Super7, and Clutter Magazine, and featuring designers and design houses Bounty

Hunter, KAWS, PUSHEAD, Mars-1, Cereal Art, Dalek, Sket-One, Gary Baseman, Max Toys, Old School Kaiju, Go Hero, Kow Yokoama, etc. A wonderful book, despite the poor choice of cover materials. \$25



13. Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art; Alison Byrne, introduction; Heather Hakimzadeh, foreword. **Turn the Page: The First Ten Years of Hi-Fructose.** Van Nuys, CA: Baby Tattoo Press with Virginia MOCA, 2016, limited printing of 2000 copies. Hardcover with illustrated boards, 30.7 by 30.5 cm, 120 pp., illus. New, shrink-wrapped. Commemorating the Virginia MOCA exhibition of the same name, this volume includes all 51 artists featured in the show: A.J. Fosik, Audrey Kawasaki, Barnaby Barford, Beth Cavener, Brian Dettmer, Brian McCarty, Camille Rose Garcia, Chris Berens, Erwin Wurm, Femke Hiemstra, Fulvio di Piazza, Gary Taxali, Gehard Demetz, Greg "Craola" Simkins, Jean-Pierre Roy, Jeff Soto, Jennybird Alcantara, Jeremy Geddes, Josh Keyes, Kate MacDowell, Kazuki Takamatsu, Kehinde Wiley, Kevin Cyr, Kris Kuksi, Lisa Nilsson, Marco Mazzoni, Marion Peck, Mark Dean Veca, Mark Ryden, Martin Whittfooth, MARS-1, Nicola Verlato, Olek, Parra, Ray Caesar, Ron English, Sam Gibbons, Scott Hove, Scott Musgrove, Shepard Fairey, Tara McPherson, Tiffany Bozic, Tim Biskup, Todd Schorr, Tracey Snelling, Travis Louie, Victor Castillo, Wim Delvoe, Wayne White, and Yoshitomo Nara. \$30

14. Wight, Shawn. **Flux: Designer Toys.** Berkeley, CA: Gingko Press, Inc., 2009, first ed. Sewn wraps, 23 by 20 cm, 317 (3) pp., heavily illus. in full color. New, shrink-wrapped, with minor corner bumping. From the publisher: "Ever changing, challenging and re-inventing, designer toys are in a never-ending state of flux. Old becomes new and new can become pioneering. *Flux* is an intimate and exciting journey through the idiosyncrasies of designer playthings—every artist featured offers you the chance to meet the quirky characters of their imagination and see the world through their eyes. Not just toys, this book is bursting at the seams with inspiration. The supporting artwork tells the story of the development of characters—how the initial sketch of a good character can make it across media through vinyl, advertising, animation, illustration, cloth design, and much more [...] it provides a glimpse into the thoughts and aims of the person behind the art." \$35



No. 15

TOYS

A Quick Word on Blind Boxes and the Dunny

“A pop culture surprise,” blind boxes, or blind packaging, are the method most art toy firms use to package their small figures. You don’t know which figure in a series you’ll get until you open the package, like baseball cards or cranking a toy out of a gumball machine. Often a series will include the chances of getting a particular design, like 1/20 or 3/40. Many of these series, like some of the ones listed below, will also include rare “chase” figures. You don’t know what the design is, but you know that your chance of getting one is only 1 in 60, 1 in 80, etc.⁴

Several of the toys below are based on the Dunny platform, one of the many blank slates that artists use as their canvas when creating art toys. Paul Budnitz and Tristan Eaton, two designers from Boulder, Colorado-based Kidrobot—one of the big dogs when it comes to designer toys—are responsible for the creation of the Dunny. The toy is “based on a rabbit figure with distinctive tubular ears. The origin of the name Dunny came from a combination of street slang and one of the early ‘Devil Bunny’ prototypes.”⁵



No. 23

“CUTE WITH BRUTE”

15. Chueh, Luke. **Dissected Art Toy with Signed Print.** [Beacon, NY]: Clutter Media Group, 2015, unspecified limited edition. Scarce set of this edition, including the vinyl Bear head (approx. 16 cm wide and 15 cm tall) and vinyl blood pool (approx. 21 cm diameter)—both marked with the Chueh and Clutter logos—an “Everybody Needs Head” glow-in-the-dark Bear head (4.5 cm tall), a *Dissected* print signed by Chueh (15.2 by 15.2 cm), and three *Dissected* stickers. All fine, in original packaging. Luke Chueh (pronounced Chu) is a Los Angeles-based pop surrealist painter, best known for the Bear persona in his paintings. Produced as a collaboration between Chueh and Clutter, and crowd funded, this is a stunning representation of Luke’s Bear, which takes on a sinister tone when placed in the blood pool. “The best way to describe Chueh’s art is to say it causes mixed feelings, as the viewers are undoubtedly amused but also feel bad for the characters. A minimal color scheme, a simple animal character, and an endless list of ridiculous and ill-fated situations – that is something the artist is famous for [...] He uses animals because he feels that if he used humans as characters for his stories, it would draw some people and alienate others. Chueh wants for his art to be relatable to all. Brute and cute, tragedy and comedy – these contrasts are important as they create a compelling narrative that people can empathize with. His Bear and the scenarios he’s been in are widely known and popular. Recently, the artist had hidden other characters inside the Bear costume, and the entire Headspace series is actually his attempt to give credit to everything he loves and holds dear, ranging from pop culture icons, other artists he’s inspired by, to his understanding of the contemporary art.”⁶ \$200



No. 16

16. Egan, Mike. **Bones.** [Pittsburgh]: Mike Egan, nd (c. 2014), unspecified limited edition, figure made in Japan and painted by Egan. Hand cast and hand painted resin, 7.25” tall (18.5 cm). Fine, no packaging. A scarce seven-inch black and white color way of Egan’s popular Bones character, an extension of his folk-pop paintings. See also item no. 4. \$60

17. Eaton, Tristan. **Floral Pleasure Bot.** Boulder, CO: Kidrobot, 2014. Seven-inch figure (approx. 18 cm tall). New, in original packaging. “Stripped down and streamlined, this piece is one of beauty. Kidrobot asked Tristan Eaton, the foundational Kidrobot designer [and co-creator of the Dunny platform], to embellish the Bot form with his golden illustrative touch. Featuring an elegant, intricate and daring design—an homage to beautiful bodies.” \$30



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18. Jurevicius, Nathan. **Nightriders.** Boulder, CO: Kidrobot, 2016, retired collection. Three-inch figure series, 14 different designs. New, unopened blind boxes.

Nightriders, designed by Jurevicius, “are a particular breed of nocturnal bird spirits that wander between the supernatural world and earth-bound gods, communicating with the unseen.” From his Kidrobot profile: “Nathan Jurevicius is a Canadian based Australian artist whose diverse range of work has appeared in numerous publications, advertising campaigns, and galleries around the world. His most acclaimed project to date is *Scarygirl*, a brand that since 2001 has developed an underground fan following manifested in comics, limited edition vinyl toy figures, console games and internationally exhibited artwork (and in development for an animated feature film).” This is a retired series. Blind box, \$6.00 ea.

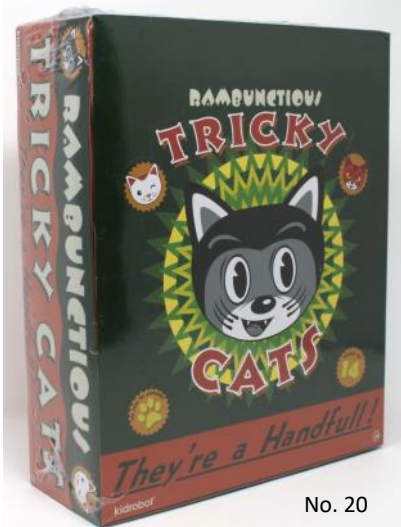




No. 19

19. Kidrobot. **Tricky Cats**. Boulder, CO: Kidrobot, 2015. Three-inch figure series, 14 different designs. New, unopened blind boxes. From the in-house design department at Kidrobot comes thirteen lucky cats, including Spacecat Tricky, Tricky de los Muertos, and Tricky Li'l Devil. A mischievous, yet cute series. "They're a handful..." Blind box, \$5 ea.

20. Kidrobot. **Tricky Cats**. Boulder, CO: Kidrobot, 2015. Three-inch figure series, 14 different designs. New, unopened case of 20 blind boxes. \$90



No. 20

City's 'fertile crescent' of hip-hop, street-art and punk." Kidrobot translated Mishka's particular brand of madness onto their Dunny platform, featuring the work of Greg Rivera, L'Amour Supreme, Maurice Blanco, Dane Thompson, Ray Martinez and Mikhail Bortnik. These designs run a narrow range from creepy-cute to grotesque. "Never forget—Mishka is engineered to destroy everything boring!" Blind box, \$6 ea.

21. Mishka. **МИШКА**. Boulder, CO: Kidrobot, 2016, retired collection. Three-inch figure series, 16 different designs. New, unopened blind boxes. From Kidrobot: "Mishka—born in Brooklyn, raised in Hell—has been a street wear fixture since 2003. The brand can trace its roots back to New York



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22. Mishka. **МИШКА**. Boulder, CO: Kidrobot, 2016, retired collection. Three-inch figure series, 16 different designs. New, unopened case of 20 blind boxes. \$100

23. Tolleson, Scott. **Imperial Lotus Dragon Dunny**. Boulder, CO: Kidrobot, 2015. Eight-inch figure (approx. 20 cm tall). New, in original packaging. A striking art toy designed by Los Angeles artist Scott Tolleson with translucent wings and sculpted three dimensional details. From his Kidrobot profile: "Scott has been interested in toys and art since he was a child growing up in Atlanta. At 16, he moved to Southern California, where he eventually attended Cal State Fullerton and earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Illustration. Since 1998, Scott has worked for the Walt Disney Company in Entertainment Productions where he has designed pieces for various parades, venues and merchandise. Scott has also been busy outside of Disney. He is happiest when he is working on multiple projects. Past productions include the Tricycle Terror, Big Rollin' Rascal, Deadbeet, Kookie No Good, Otis & Otto, and Malicus and Trayjus. He has collaborated with a variety of companies including Kidrobot, Google, Skybound, October Toys, Freak Store, TOY2R, 3dRetro, Topps, Clutter, Mighty Jaxx, and Pobber." \$50



No. 22

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No. 23

24. Visell, Amanda. **Ferals**. Boulder, CO: Kidrobot, 2015, retired collection. Three-inch figure series, 14 different designs. New, unopened blind boxes. For the Ferals Mini Series, Amanda Visell created a cast of animal characters using a variety of Kidrobot's platforms, including Munny, Trippy, Raffy and Dunny—cute, with an edge. From her bio: "Amanda Visell grew up with a crazy love for vintage Disney. Mousketeers, war era cartoons, a different time. She spent her teens in the pacific northwest during the riot grrl music movement and was captivated by the large community of independent artists and their overall message of equality. She moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career in visual development for animation, eventually becoming a designer and sculptor on stop motion segments for shows like *The Simpsons* and the



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feature film *Elf*. Her career took a sharp turn when she started showing her paintings publicly. Since 2005 she has exhibited her work, lectured, and taught workshops at galleries and museums internationally. She has partnered with brands to develop product lines based on her artwork including Disneyland U.S.A. and Kidrobot. In 2007 she formed her own design brand, Switcheroo with notable artist Michelle Valigura.” Blind box, \$6 ea.

25. Visell, Amanda. **Scaredy Labbit**. Boulder, CO: Kidrobot, 2016. Ten-inch figure (approx. 26 cm long and 20 cm tall). New, in original packaging. *Scaredy Labbit* is Amanda Visell’s take on the goofy, cute and pleasantly offbeat Labbit platform. *Scaredy Labbit* features whimsical ghosts painted on each side, and each piece is hand painted so no two are exactly alike. The light blue color way was a limited edition run exclusively for Kidrobot. “Courage starts with fear...” \$40



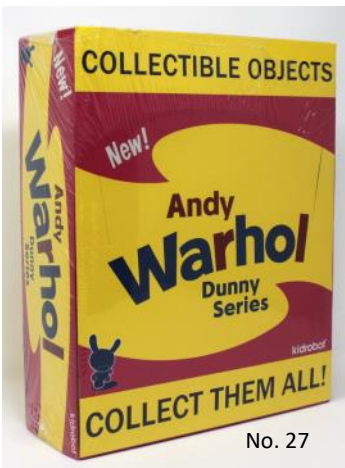
No. 25

26. Warhol, Andy. **Andy Warhol Dunny Series**. Boulder, CO: Kidrobot, 2016, series one, retired collection. Three-inch figure series, 14 different designs. New, unopened blind boxes. One of Kidrobot’s most successful Dunny series was a result of their collaboration with the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. Each figure has been combined with one of Warhol’s iconic images to create a new vision of his art, including Marilyn Monroe, Brillo, Campbell’s and Banana Dunnys, as well as a Dunny of Andy himself. I think he would be proud. Now in its second series, this first Series of Warhol Dunnys has long sold out. Blind box, \$10 ea.



No. 26, and Above

27. Warhol, Andy. **Andy Warhol Dunny Series**. Boulder, CO: Kidrobot, 2016, series one, retired collection. Three-inch figure series, 14 different designs. New, unopened case of 20 blind boxes. \$250



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28. WuzOne. **No Strings on Me**. Boulder, CO: Kidrobot, 2015. Eight-inch figure (approx. 20 cm tall). New, in original packaging. Vivid colors and clean lines define this striking Dunny by Spanish artist WuzOne. From the artist’s statement: “In a world owned and corrupted by big government and financial institutions, we all want to break free from the strings that bind us. This art -piece can be interpreted as



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promoting an anti-establishment agenda or creativity as it is focused on removing the strings that bind us. It speaks to us as the story of Pinocchio did, pulling on our heart strings and releasing us from the grips of others. We are free humans and will not be your puppets!” Kidrobot collaborated with the artist for this designer toy that was released at the San Diego Comic Con in 2015. \$50.00

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ART AS TOYS

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TOYS AS ART

No. 22



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