

# BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART



## **MEDIA ALERT: Blanton Museum to Present *Terry Allen: MemWars***

**What:** The Blanton Museum of Art at The University of Texas at Austin announces [Terry Allen: \*MemWars\*](#), the ninth Contemporary Project in the series. Raised in Lubbock, Texas, and based in Santa Fe, New Mexico, acclaimed visual artist and singer-songwriter Terry Allen recounts personal narratives and histories, many about the American West, across multiple mediums, including drawing, sculpture, video, and performance. In this special presentation at the Blanton, Allen's work from the series *MemWars* takes a cue from Italian Futurist one-act plays known as *sintesi*, which rejected stagnation and embraced innovation. Inspired by these unconventional micro dramas, the series reflects on how memory—in motion, and often at war with itself as the title suggests—fuels storytelling. The three-channel video installation *MemWars* (2016) features nine autobiographical reflections told by Allen and his wife and frequent collaborator, actress and writer Jo Harvey Allen. The narratives explore what inspires the songwriting process, with each story culminating in a song. The video installation is complemented by drawings, many of which combine images with texts, spanning prose writing to stage direction, and likewise cross-reference the visual, theatrical, and musical.

### **When:**

December 18, 2021 – July 10, 2022

### **Programs:**

In conjunction with the exhibition, Terry Allen & The Panhandle Mystery Band will perform a series of songs and stories at the [Paramount Theatre](#) on Saturday, January 15, 2022. Titled *CIVILIZATION*, the show is named after a work in the exhibition.

As part of the Blanton's virtual *Curated Conversations* series, Terry Allen will be in conversation with Blanton Curator Carter E. Foster in April 2022. More information will be made available at [blantonmuseum.org/events](http://blantonmuseum.org/events).

**Admission Information:**

Monday and Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday – Saturday: 10am – 5pm

Sunday: 1 – 5pm

Due to construction on the grounds, the entrance to the museum is accessible via Brazos Street.

*Terry Allen: MemWars* is organized by the Blanton Museum of Art. Funding for this exhibition is provided in part by Suzanne Deal Booth.

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**MEDIA CONTACT:** Katie Bruton, [katie.bruton@blantonmuseum.org](mailto:katie.bruton@blantonmuseum.org)

**Image:** Terry Allen, *MemWars*, 2016; still, three-channel video, run time: 1:22:28, dimensions variable. (photo: © Terry Allen, Courtesy of L.A. Louver, Venice, CA)

**About the Blanton Museum of Art:**

Founded in 1963, the Blanton Museum of Art holds the largest public collection in Central Texas with around 19,000 objects. Recognized as the home of Ellsworth Kelly's *Austin*, its major collecting areas are modern and contemporary American and Latin American art, Italian Renaissance and Baroque paintings, and prints and drawings. The Blanton offers thought-provoking, visually arresting, and personally moving encounters with art.