



**GARET MARTIN**

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My work is oftentimes inspired by objects, which I have encountered simply by living my life; trash on the sidewalk, patterns on the t-shirts of friends and strangers, shadows cast by evergreen trees, and product packaging discovered while grocery shopping—all of these (and much more) are often called upon when creating. The same can be said for this unrealized work of art, which was inspired by an LP cover I once discovered while thrift store shopping. It was a Christmas album (found in mid August) with the word “Merry” scrolled so beautifully in the upper right hand corner—the word was by itself and seemed to have been added as an afterthought, securing the authenticity of the record’s Christmas spirit. I simply fell in love with the look of this word and its somewhat sauntering presence and thus wanted to somehow memorialize it. Having been fascinated with sign carving for some time I thought that this would be the best (and only) way of honoring “Merry”. As I began to look into the process of commissioning the piece I soon realized that due to the scale and detail the price was far beyond my current means and was forced to abandon the project. I would consider this work a wall sculpture, the word and its ornamentation would provide a visual obstacle of negative and positive space, it would then be stained black so that the wood grain would not entirely be mask, thus allowing the primary medium to come through paying homage to the craft, the tree, the word, and the discovery.

Garet Martin