



## Dugout

BY TERRY ALLEN

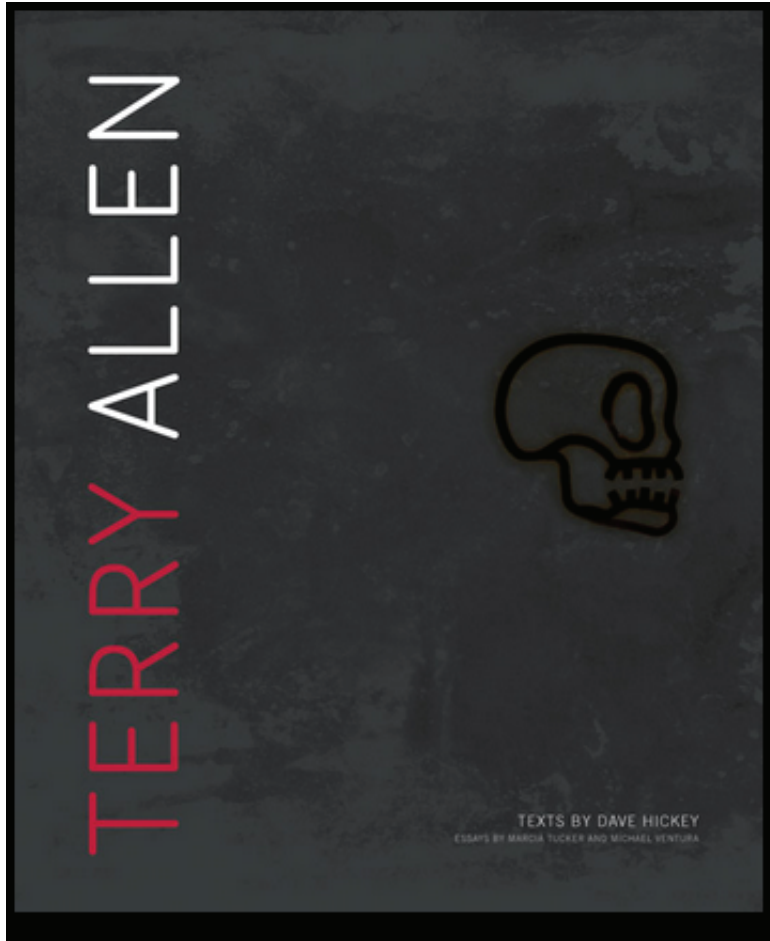
An evocative, multimedia exploration of how memory is invented, by the acclaimed artist and songwriter Terry Allen.

2005

How do you tell a story that's about baseball and jazz...Civil War battles and Cold War paranoia...love and death...true stories and lies...and a boy growing up on the flat sprawl of West Texas? Acclaimed visual artist and singer-songwriter Terry Allen created a multimedia work—*Dugout*—that combines writing and painting, video/sculpture installations, and musical theater to narrate, in his words, "a love story, an investigation into how memory is invented...a kind of supernatural-jazz-sport-history-ghost-blood-fiction." A three-part work based loosely on the lives of Allen's parents, *Dugout* has been exhibited and performed in Texas, California, and New Mexico, as well as on National Public Radio.

This volume adds another dimension to the *Dugout* corpus by presenting the work in book form. The heart of the book is *Dugout* itself. *Dugout I* incorporates poetry, prose, and images of two- and three-dimensional artworks to evoke the memories of Allen's parents, a retired baseball player and a former jazz pianist. *Dugout II: Hold On to the House* universalizes Allen's West Texas roots by fictionalizing his childhood memories into a series of video tableaux projected upon an archetypal house structure. *Dugout III: Warboy and the Backboard Blues* presents the script of a musical theater piece that describes his parents' shock at the unexpected outer space arrival of their "whatsit" son—a boy growing up in a world so different from their own that he might as well be an alien.

Juxtaposed among the three parts of *Dugout* are essays by David Byrne, artist and cofounder of the Talking Heads; Dave Hickey, art critic and recipient of a MacArthur Foundation "genius" grant; Dana Friis-Hansen, Director of the Austin Museum of Art; and Terrie Sultan, Director of Blaffer Gallery, the Art Museum of the University of Houston. The book also includes a CD of a live performance of *Dugout III*. This lively combination of Allen's work and others' responses adds an intriguing layer to the evocative, atmospheric, multisensory experience of *Dugout*.



## Terry Allen

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TEXTS BY DAVE HICKEY

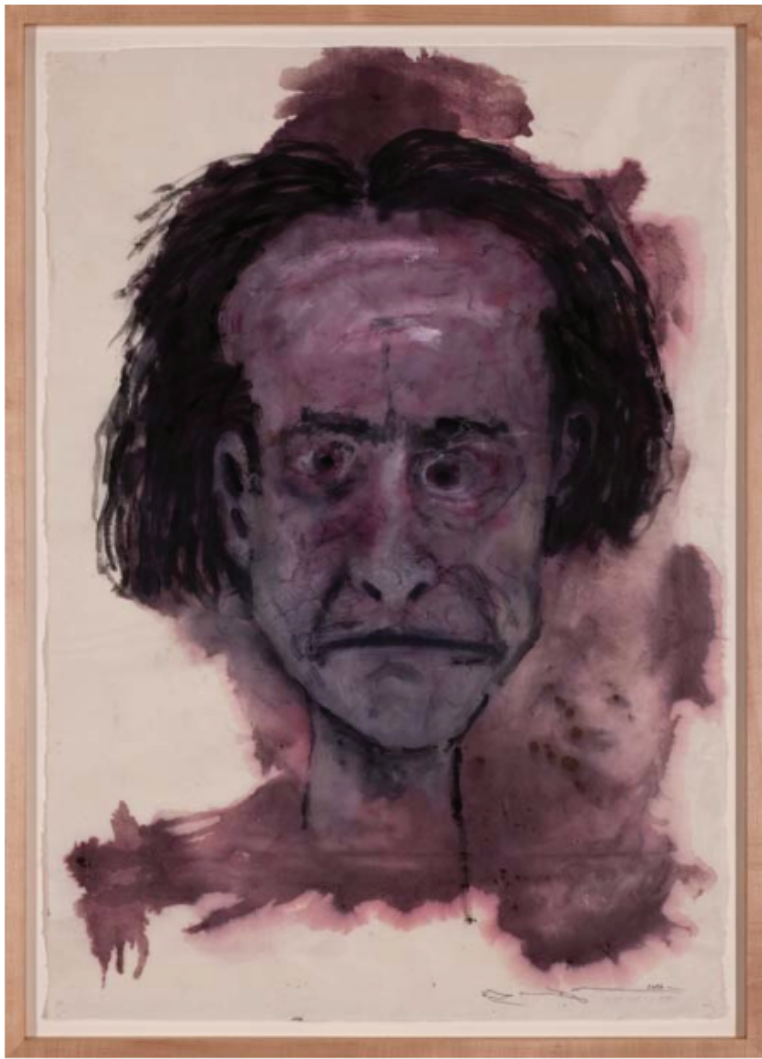
ESSAYS BY MARCIA TUCKER AND MICHAEL VENTURA

The essential retrospective of the work of acclaimed visual artist and singer-songwriter Terry Allen, with essays, including one previously unpublished, by leading cultural critic Dave Hickey and more than 200 superb illustrations.

M. Georgia Hegarty Dunkerley Contemporary Art Series

"Finding one particular thing at one particular time, then letting a world accumulate around it, in rough contingency, nothing quite fitting or not fitting." This is how Dave Hickey describes the work of artist and singer-songwriter Terry Allen, who creates works that proliferate into a constellation of genres as he revisits and revises his original inspirations. A painting may lead to a sculpture, which morphs into a song that takes on many voices and becomes a theatre piece or video installation. Yet, in Allen's endlessly evolving art, "nothing that you might actually see in the world is depicted, nothing is even surreal, because surrealism infers a starting point in reality. The songs are sung by disembodied voices. The stories are told by voices with regional accents. The drawings are drawn because otherwise we could not see what they are about, so they are better read as heraldry, or glyphs, or typologies than anything like pictures."

*Terry Allen* is the first comprehensive retrospective of this prolific artist's work. It opens with a previously unpublished celebration of Allen by Dave Hickey, then covers his three largest and most important series—*JUAREZ*, with critical commentary by Dave Hickey; *RING*, with commentary by Marcia Tucker; and *YOUTH IN ASIA*, with an interview of Terry Allen and commentary by Dave Hickey. It also explores Allen's other significant visual works—installations, public works and bronzes, and sculpture and works on paper. Highlighting an equally important part of the artist's oeuvre, Michael Ventura provides an insightful discussion of Allen's music. More than two hundred color and black-and-white images flow in and around the texts, providing a sweeping visual gallery of Allen's work in which, as Hickey observes, "not only are there no happy endings. There are no endings."



Face 2 (Momo Chronicles), 2006  
gouache on paper  
39 1/4" x 28 1/4"



Momo Chronicle IV: Rodez, Volver; Events of the Face, 2009  
gouache, pastel, color pencil, graphite, press type, sparkle, collage elements  
56 1/2" x 46 1/2"



*Ghost Ship, 2010*  
mixed media  
variable dimensions



*Momo Chronicle IV: Rodez, Volver; Rodez face, 2009*  
gouache, pastel, color pencil, graphite, press type, sparkle, collage elements  
28 1/2" x 39 1/4"