

Curious Matters assemblage

JAMES PRESTON ALLEN
the box as metaphor



Cover design from *Curious Matters*—Assemblage at the Lofts in San Pedro, CA, May 2012. Graphic Touch Designs. Photography for this edition by Ray Carofano.
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A Curious Matter Left Unresolved

**A SERIES OF SMALL ASSEMBLAGES DEALING WITH
FEAR, PASSION AND DEATH**

by: James Preston Allen, ©2006-2008

It is perhaps the accumulation of the small things that mount up in one's life that contain the most significance when taken as a whole. It's the little stuff that adds up over time, the things we don't consider important but really they do. These little things often represent the thoughts or impressions that we dismiss day to day as being extraneous or superfluous, but in the end, accumulated, they mount up to be colossal. Sometimes they are the mistakes we regret, other times the debilitating fears or the long held passions we attempt to repress. They exist right next to us, each hiding in the corners casting longing shadows on the things we admit to—they run as a subconscious stream underneath what we touch and say.

The contents of these boxes and tins contain the contents of these distractions of life, which when collected together seem to draw their meanings like poems or songs as metaphors on the passage of life, embedded with intended but unintentional acts of habitual, excessive and compulsive construction and collecting. They are visual poems whispered in the eyes of the viewer, like a gift to a lost one who never returns.



















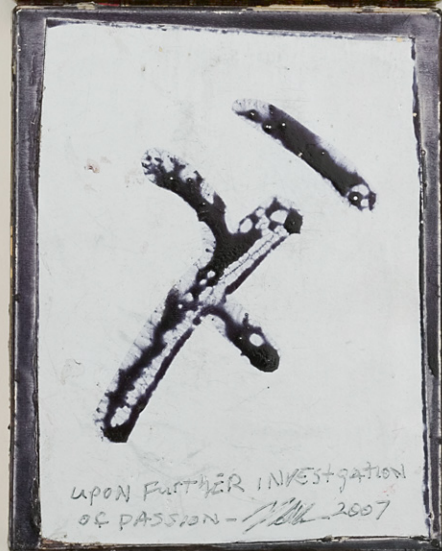












UPON FURTHER INVESTIGATION
OF PASSION - 18th 2007







SELECTED BIOGRAPHY

James Preston Allen

Born: Los Angeles, 1950

Current Residence: San Pedro, California

P.O. Box 731, San Pedro, California 90733

EDUCATION

Otis Parsons Art Institute and School of Design

BFA 1981

2401 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA

Los Angeles Harbor College

Fine Arts

Wilmington, CA

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

May 2012 THE LOFT GALLERY, San Pedro, CA

Curious Matters Assemblage

with Anne Daub

July-August 2012 BARNSDALE PARK

Group Show

2001 GALLERY 478, San Pedro, CA

Group Show

1985 SAN PEDRO ARTISTS PART II

Group Show

PALOS VERDES BECKSTRAN GALLERY

James Allen

PALOS VERDES COMMUNITY ART CENTER

with Craig Antrum

Michael Davis

Carl Kane

Dustin Shuler

1985 SIXTH STREET GALLERY, San Pedro, CA

Group Show

Paintings on Glass

Mixed Media Enamel and Acrylic

1984 EQUAL TIME, ART WITH SOCIAL CONSCIENCE

Co Curator

Angels Gate Cultural Center

James Allen

Los Angeles Harbor

James Hugunin

1983 PACIFIC REGIONAL '83

Group Show

1980 BRAND GALLERY, Glendale, CA

Pasadena Art Award

1972 LOS ANGELES HARBOR COLLEGE

Solo Exhibit

