

## **Barry Markowitz**

## Expedition



Bag and Bedding enamel, ink and marker on paper backed velvet 2012

August 3 – 31, 2013 Artist's reception: Saturday, August 3, 7 – 10 pm,

L2kontemporary is proud to present *Expedition*, the first solo exhibition at the gallery by Brooklyn born Barry Markowitz. Although Markowitz, a curator, educator and fixture on the L.A. art scene for 30 years, focused on Performance Art through the mid-1970 and 1980's, he has always maintained his practice as a painter and installation artist.

"For the past year I have been paying close attention to the homeless activities on a small grassy park located on Alameda between Olvera Street and the 101-freeway entrance. Occasionally there are tents, or blankets or just rags that designate each individual's spot on the gently sloping urban landscape. It is this myriad of sleeping bags, bedding, and rags that have attracted my attention because like their owners they are forever shifting and landing; sometimes in collision with others, sometimes resting in a mass of gathered material, sometimes still and apart. I recognized a certain formal quality in the patterns I observed: both in content and in form. These observations inspired a series of drawings depicting the assorted fabrics and shapes, on birch wood panels and paper backed velvet."

Markowitz has received two Rockefeller Honorariums and was awarded the J. Paul Getty Fellowship for painting in 1996. For the Pacific Standard Time Initiative, he performed at LACE and Human Resources. Currently, he teaches at Cal State LA and the Los Angeles High School of the Performing Arts, and is a former Performance Art workshop instructor at Cal Arts.