

AUTO SUSPENSION - MARK SNYDER

AUTO SUSPENSION

PROPOSAL

Auto Suspension is a temporary installation piece created by Boston artist Mark Snyder. For this work the artist will suspend a large, 70's era station wagon upside down and askew from a support beam or a structure within the gallery. Using twisted ropes of natural fibers, the car will be hung in manner and technique similar to those employed by bondage practitioners. Mark is currently searching for an appropriate venue for this work.

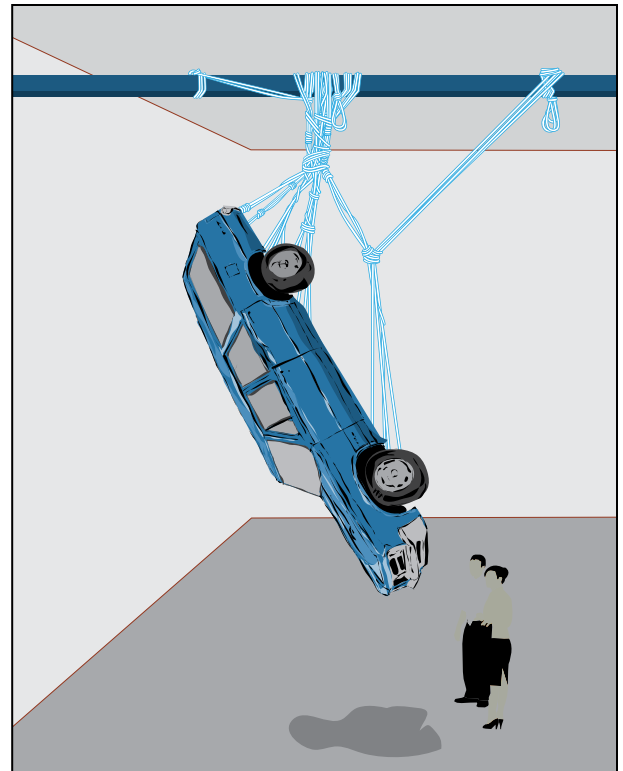
THE AUTO SUSPENSION EXPERIENCE

A 5000lbs vehicle suspended upside down and several feet from the ground will produce a tension between the great weight of the vehicle and the visual lightness of it floating in air. The strain of the ropes, the creaking and precarious sway of all the elements under stress will fashion a new experience of the objects that viewers would not typically get to explore.

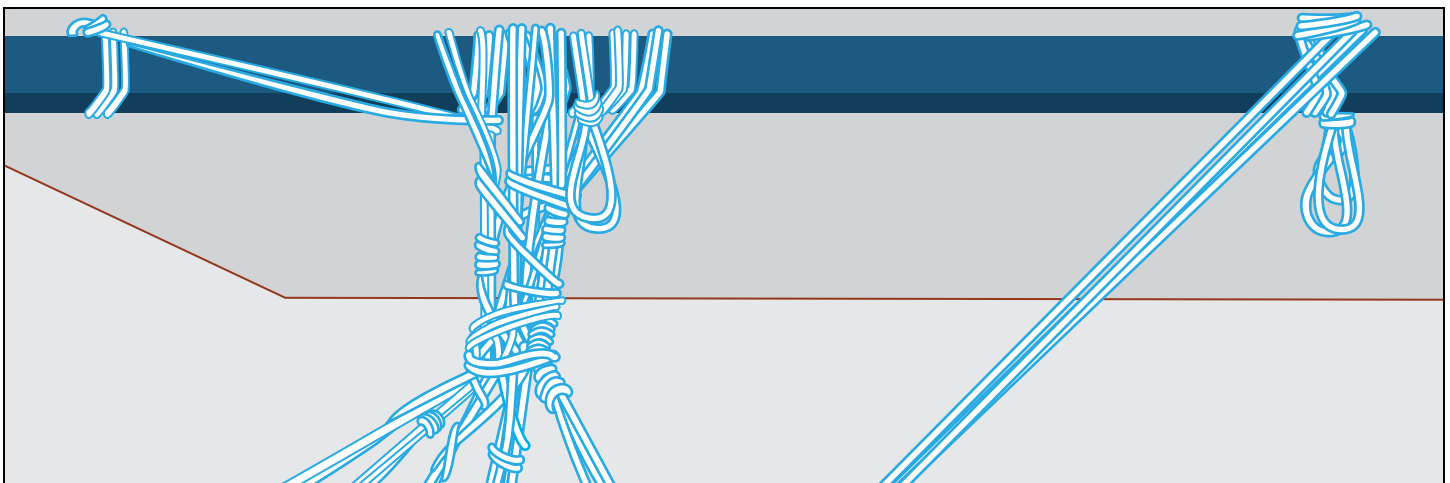
The automobile was selected for its intrinsically American history and place in our lives. It is infused into our economic well being and woven into our dreams. It is part of our selfimage and part of our fantasies. Bondage on the other hand offers the exploration between dominance and submission, strength and weakness, pain and ecstasy, fear and security.

FUNDING AUTO SUSPENSION

The artist is currently seeking volunteers and donations in the form of time, materials and finances. This project will take a community of individual donors and institutions to obtain the vehicle, the ropes required and the space to exhibit it. The artist himself is raising funds through the sale of drawings and paintings related to the work.



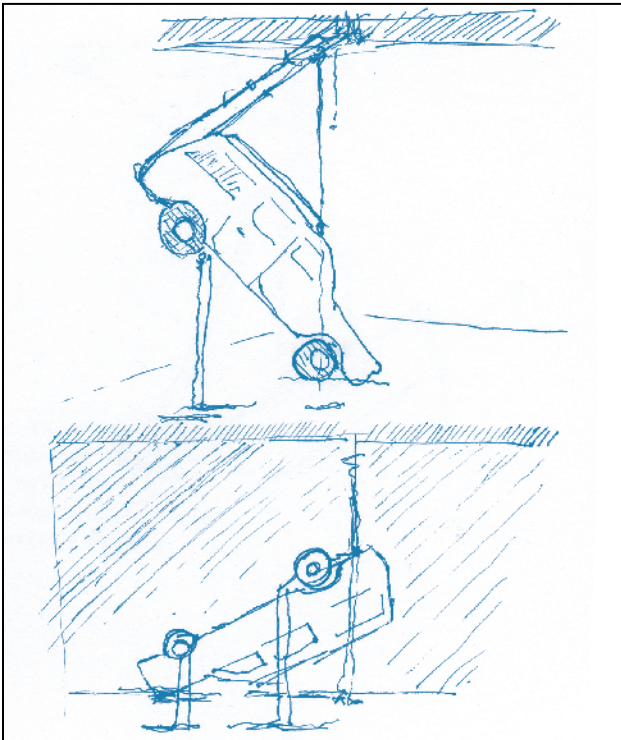
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COMMUNITY AND THE ART

The artist firmly believes that art and communities do not live in vacuums separate from one another, but rely on each other to nurture their humanity. In this work the artist is presenting to the community multiple opportunities to engage in and grow from the creation of this work. The car, which is such an iconic symbol of America strength, freedom and individual personality, is presented to the community in a way that initiates discourse on what a car is and what it means to them on individual levels. The opportunity to fund, assist, donate or otherwise actively participate in the creation gives each another voice and perspective of the work. The artist too gains, by hearing from the community at large. The work presents an opportunity for all to give voice to their ideas and potentially alter one another's thinking.



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INSTALLATION PROCESS

The vehicle will be hoisted into suspension using standard bondage rigger techniques. Relying on ropes as pulleys and the gathering of slack, the bound vehicle will rise off the ground in due process. Artistic decisions, personnel and strength assessment will dictate the speed at which the work comes to completion and the final look.

ROPES AND BONDAGE

Dock worker, farmers and industry have relied on ropes and knots to tie down, secure and hoist the large and small. Bondage riggers use the same tools to restrain, constrict and elevate emotional states. Combining these practices and their inherent languages elevates the subject matter to new levels of discussions and impact.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Mark J Snyder is a graduate of Alfred University, having also studied at Rochester Institute of Technology's School of the American Craftsman in upstate New York. Born in Buffalo and raised in the rural town of Victor, NY, Mark now lives in Boston, MA.

Mark's work is contemplative, physical and often places the viewer in the position to ponder their own feelings and relationships to the objects and subject matter involved in new ways.



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