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ARTIST GALLERY

## Gary Taxali



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Photo: Rannie Turingan

#### Posted by Rannie Turingan / NOVEMBER 24, 2008

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Born in India in 1968, and immigrating to Toronto a year later, Gary Taxali has been creating art ever since his parents encouraged him to be an artist as a child. The illustrator and painter, and 1991 OCAD grad, is now internationally know, having exhibited work in Toronto and abroad for the past 17 years.

Taxali might be best known for creating toy figurines. His first one was The Toy Monkey which he dreamed up in 2005. It's available on <u>his website</u> and also in an exclusive Whitney Museum edition.

After producing several licensed characters for other toy companies, Taxali has now gone solo and is releasing his own under the Chump Toys banner. "Oh No" and "Oh Oh" are two examples.

Finding inspiration from books, films, friends and other artists, Taxali collaborated with musician <u>Aimee Mann</u> earlier this year. He created the art for her latest CD, @#%&\*! Smilers as well as an



#### upcoming video.

Taxali will be showing at the <u>Jonathan Levine Gallery</u> in New York in 2009 and will be releasing a children's book with <u>Scholastic</u> next summer. Despite his busy schedule, Taxali also continues to teach at OCAD.

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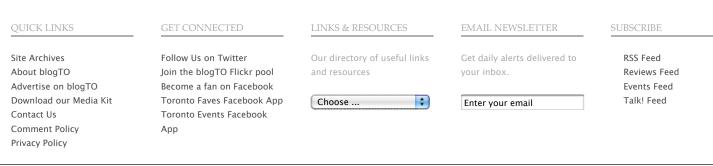
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