

The Menil Collection

invites you to a book launch for

Mel Chin's new artist's book

The Funk & Wag from A to Z



Mel Chin will talk

Nick Flynn will read

A book signing will follow

Friday, June 6, 2014, 7 p.m.

The Menil Collection
1533 Sul Ross Street
Houston, Texas

In 2011, Houston-born artist Mel Chin acquired a 25-volume set of Funk & Wagnall's profusely illustrated *Universal Standard Encyclopedia* (c. 1953). Removing the reproductions, Chin transmuted them into 528 collages with a 21st century edge. The collages are contained in Mel Chin's new artist's book, *The Funk & Wag From A to Z*, published by the Menil Collection.

A second recent publication provides a comprehensive look at the artist's career. *Mel Chin: Rematch*, the exhibition and catalogue organized by the New Orleans Museum of Art, is the most expansive presentation of the artist's work to date, including rarely seen materials from the past four decades.

The Funk & Wag from A to Z includes 25 poems commissioned by Chin and poet / memoirist Nick Flynn. In previous incarnations Nick Flynn has worked as a ship's captain, an electrician, and a caseworker with homeless adults. He is currently a professor on the creative writing faculty at the University of Houston. His books include, most recently, *The Reenactments: A Memoir*, and his third book of poems, *The Captain Asks for a Show of Hands*.

Books by Mel Chin and Nick Flynn will be available for purchase and signing.