



Nine
Paper-
Mache
Objects
by Bernie
Kaminski





Bernie's work in situ at Turn Gallery, Oct 2022

When my daughter was in fourth grade she brought home a paper-mache seahorse and I thought it looked great. Then we made some simple pieces together and after a few projects I started getting ideas for more things I wanted to make. And the more I made, the more I became consumed with it.



It's difficult to be precise with elaborate shapes working in paper-mache. When I made a pair of tennis shoes, lacing them took some trial and error. Over the years I've gotten better at it, but some things still look funky, which is okay.

I like working with paper-mache because it's something I can do at home. I'm not great at drawing or painting, but if I make something out of paper-mache it usually turns out amusing enough to justify all the time I spent on it.

I had a Jack Kramer racquet in high school and I still get a thrill when I see one. I probably spent more time staring at it than playing with it. I made a paper-mache version years ago and then ended up making more tennis-related pieces. I discovered that it's fun and pretty easy to paint the Wilson logo.



Meryl Streep's
book collection
from *Kramer*
vs. *Kramer*.





Around the time I started doing paper-mache I saw the documentary *The French* for the first time, and that struck a nerve. I couldn't get over all the incredible clothes, shoes, and gear.



I haven't played tennis in years. There was a guy in my neighborhood giving tennis lessons decked out in very cool-looking tennis gear.* I'd watch him play and think I should take it up again, but he mostly inspired me to make some more fake racquets. 🎾

* 100% chance that man is @christiankcoleman.
Hi, Christian!

Bernie Kaminski is a television producer and artist living in New York City.