

Recommended Shows: Beyond Chicago EXPO

by ROBIN DLUZEN on SEPTEMBER 17, 2014 · 0 COMMENTS [REVIEWS](#)



Bryan Zanisnik, "The Passenger" (Image courtesy of Aspect Ratio)

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September 5 – October 18, 2014

Aspect Ratio

119 N Peoria St #3D

What's on view: A two-channel video documenting a performance by the artist and his dad, giving a pseudo-guided tour of a Philadelphia waste recycling facility; a site-specific installation of vintage baseball cards from the artist's own childhood collection; and a series of photos and embroidery works featuring imagery of and content inspired by the novelist Philip Roth.

Now that the children of the 80s and 90s have grown up, galleries are filling with sentimental revisionist histories. Fortunately, you'll find none of that from New York-based artist Bryan Zanisnik. Through a range of media, Zanisnik addresses his childhood, as well as a shared one, with humor, absurdity and a surprising amount of objectivity.

Take *Alternative Colors* and *BHT*, a hole busted through the gallery wall reveals a grid of baseball card packs, lit dramatically from inside the drywall. According to the artist, the cards, initially collected in the hopes of cashing in on their increased value in the future, are today practically worthless—even in their original packaging. Theoretically, though, Zanisnik elevates the objects' value by turning them into art. They're indeed valueless in the end as, the artist explains, the cards will be recycled into his future works until these cherished childhood relics get destroyed from use and ultimately discarded.