

TOPICS

SEARCH

SUBSCRIBE  
4 weeks for only 99¢

LOG IN

TRIAL OFFER | 4 weeks for 99¢

Trump will launch a missile strike against Syria and declare the mission a success. Don't believe



City Council approves long-awaited people mover to LAX



Khloe Kardashian repc 'went absolutely ballis' Tristan Thompson infic

ARTS & CULTURE ENTERTAINMENT LA TIMES

# Grateful Dead banner art goes up for auction

By LIESL BRADNER NOV 22, 2017 | 10:00 AM



TRIAL OFFER

SUPPORT QUALITY NEWS  
4 weeks for 99¢

SAVE NOW



Jan Sawka designed 52 banners to commemorate the Grateful Dead's 25th anniversary in 1989. Now some of those banners have turned up in an auction of the collection of Hal Kant, the Grateful Dead's lawyer (Neil Trager)



The first time poster artist and architect Jan Sawka heard the Grateful Dead, he was serving time in a military prison in Wroclaw, Poland, for leading a protest against the communist regime. It was 1969, and fellow prisoners covertly tuned into an illegal broadcast of the Woodstock Festival.

Fast-forward to 1988. Sawka had settled in High Falls, N.Y., when Grateful Dead lawyer Hal Kant and his wife, Jesse, came to visit. Kant introduced himself as a sort of secret collector of Sawka's work. Among the Sawka pieces he owned: a folio of 25 hand-colored and hand-printed dry point engravings titled "A Book of Fiction" and a life-size, working telephone booth covered in writings on experiences and conversations that took place inside. (When visiting the Kant home, Jerry Garcia frequently placed calls from that phone booth.)

## LATEST ARTS & CULTURE

### ARTS & CULTURE

Why Broadway's hottest theater just might be on the West Coast

31m



### CRITIC'S NOTEBOOK

The extravagance of gabble: At the Other Minds Festival, sound poets find their own beat

2h



### ARTS & CULTURE

Modern dance pioneer Donald McKayle dies at 87

APR 11, 2018



### ARTS & CULTURE

'The Big Cloud' ...



**TRIAL OFFER**

**SUPPORT QUALITY NEWS**

4 weeks for 99¢

SAVE NOW

Sign up for our  
newsletters

Subscribe for  
unlimited access

[About us](#)

[Contact us](#)

[Privacy policy](#)

[Terms](#)

[Site map](#)

[E-Newspaper](#)

[Corrections](#)

[Archives](#)

[Classifieds](#)

[Find a job](#)

[Shop](#)

[Advertising](#)



Copyright © 2018, Los Angeles Times

---

**TRIAL OFFER**

**SUPPORT QUALITY NEWS**

4 weeks for 99¢

**SAVE NOW**