# Collaborations with Parkett : [brochure] 1984 to now

[Deoborah Wye, Judith B. Hecker]

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## Collaborations with **Parkett** 1984 to Now

"We are aiming to produce a vehicle of direct confrontation with art, providing not only coverage about artists, but original contributions by them."1 Thus reads the stated goal in the first volume of Parkett, a journal of contemporary art and ideas, in 1984; it has remained the editorial challenge through volume 60, in 2000. This exhibition focuses on those original contributions by artists resulting from Parkett's project of editions, inserts, and spine designs. During the past eighteen years the editors have collaborated with nearly 150 artists, resulting in an extraordinary array of prints, page art projects, photographs, drawings, paintings, multiples, videos, DVDs, sound pieces, and other inventive formats, all available to subscribers in editions. While most are small in scale and imbued with the fascination that comes with miniaturization, others expand across the space of a billboard or require the walk-around room of a full-size sculpture. They are encompassed here within one gallery, where a concise survey of contemporary art unfolds. A full set of these works was acquired by The Museum of Modern Art in 1998, with new publications added to the collection as they appear. This exhibition provides an opportunity not only to celebrate the remarkably diverse art of our time, but also to highlight the creative forces at work in this innovative publishing venture.



Mariko Mori. Star Doll. 1998. (Edition for Parkett 54, 1998/99). Multiple of doll, 10 1/4 x 3 1/8 x 1 9/16" (26 x 8 x 4 cm). Manufacturer: Marmit, Tokyo. Edition: 99. Linda Barth Goldstein Fund. © 1998 Mariko Mori

## Archive MoMA 18866

## EDITION ARTISTS

Doug Aitken Laurie Anderson John M Armleder **Richard Artschwager** John Baldessari Stephan Balkenhol Matthew Barney Georg Baselitz Vanessa Beecroft Ross Bleckner Alighiero e Boetti Christian Boltanski Louise Bourgeois Sophie Calle Maurizio Cattelan Vija Celmins Francesco Clemente Chuck Close Enzo Cucchi Martin Disler Marlene Dumas Eric Fischl Peter Fischli/ David Weiss Sylvie Fleury Günther Förg Katharina Fritsch

Gilbert & George

Franz Gertsch

Robert Gober

**Douglas Gordon** 

Andreas Gursky

David Hammons

Felix Gonzalez-Torres

Nan Goldin

Thomas Hirschhorn Damien Hirst Jenny Holzer Rebecca Horn Roni Horn Gary Hume Ilva Kabakov Alex Katz Mike Kelley Ellsworth Kelly Karen Kilimnik Martin Kippenberger Imi Knoebel Jeff Koons Jannis Kounellis Yayoi Kusama Wolfgang Laib Sherrie Levine Sarah Lucas Brice Marden Mario Merz Tracey Moffatt Mariko Mori Malcolm Morley Juan Muñoz Jean-Luc Mylayne Bruce Nauman Cady Noland Meret Oppenheim Gabriel Orozco Tony Oursler Jorge Pardo **Raymond Pettibon** Elizabeth Peyton Sigmar Polke **Richard Prince** 

Markus Raetz Charles Ray Jason Rhoades Gerhard Richter Pipilotti Rist Tim Rollins + K.O.S. Ugo Rondinone James Rosenquist Susan Rothenberg Thomas Ruff Edward Ruscha Thomas Schütte **Cindy Sherman** Roman Signer Andreas Slominski Beat Streuli Thomas Struth Hiroshi Sugimoto Philip Taaffe Sam Taylor-Wood **Diana Thater** Wolfgang Tillmans Rirkrit Tiravanija Rosemarie Trockel James Turrell Luc Tuymans Kara Walker Jeff Wall Andy Warhol Lawrence Weiner Franz West Rachel Whiteread Sue Williams Robert Wilson Christopher Wool

#### **INSERT ARTISTS**

Doug Aitken John M Armleder Silvia Bächli John Baldessari Lothar Baumgarten Thomas Bayrle Barbara Bloom Henry Bond Louise Bourgeois Rudy Burckhardt **Richmond Burton** David Byrne **Ernst Caramelle** Hans Danuser Tacita Dean Günther Förg General Idea Nan Goldin Peter Greenaway Andreas Gursky Damien Hirst Candida Höfer Roni Horn Toba Khedoori Barbara Kruger Liz Larner Zoe Leonard and Cheryl Dunye Sherrie Levine Glenn Ligon Robert Mapplethorpe Tatsuo Miyajima Rudi Molacek A. R. Penck Sigmar Polke

Elliott Puckette Pipilotti Rist Matthew Ritchie Edward Ruscha Adrian Schiess Shirana Shahbazi **Cindy Sherman** David Shrigley Robert Smithson Anselm Stalder Beat Streuli Niele Toroni Rosemarie Trockel Kara Walker Boyd Webb William Wegman Christopher Wool Andreas Züst

#### SPINE ARTISTS

Ross Bleckner Louise Bourgeois Dave Eggers Sylvie Fleury Emma Kunz Christian Marclay Markus Raetz Jean-Jacques Rullier Sam Samore André Thomkins Niele Toroni

The listed are participants since 1984. Due to space limitations, not all projects could be included in this exhibition.

#### THE PARKETT PROJECT

In Zurich in the early 1980s, a group of friends, stimulated by the new level of communication between art communities in Europe and the United States, hoped to contribute to the burgeoning dialogue. Bice Curiger, Jacqueline Burckhardt, Peter Blum, Walter Keller, and soon thereafter, Dieter von Graffenried, decided to create a new periodical that would present articles in both English and German and be "an equal pleasure to read in both languages."<sup>2</sup> Their goal was a journal that would be not academic but artist-driven, necessitating active collaboration. Artists would be chosen to take part



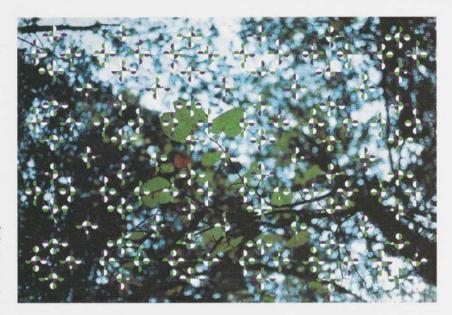
Marcel Duchamp. Box in a Valise. 1935–41. Leather valise containing pochoir reproduction with autograph correction, miniature replicas, photographs, and reproductions of works by Duchamp, 16 x 15 x 4\* (40.7 x 38.1 x 10.2 cm). Publisher and assembler: the artist, Paris. Edition: 20. James Thrall Soby Fund. © 2001 Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York/ADAGP, Paris

ion.

in shaping each issue by suggesting authors, conferring on layout, proposing cover ideas, and creating a separate artwork that could be editioned and offered for sale to subscribers. Eventually, additional artists were asked to contribute inserts to the magazine—most often in the form of page art bound into the volume—and designs for the spines. With offices in Zurich and New York, cross-Atlantic communication and the efforts needed for translation made the process slow and thoughtful, something the editors valued.

When the journal appeared in New York, there was immediate talk about the meaning and pronunciation of its title. The editors responded with a page in the second issue entitled "?Parkett?" that would become a hallmark of their thoroughness, poetic imagination, and humor. They explain that this German noun derives from the French word parquet and that it is "a term for a whole variety of inlaid wooden floors." They allude to the word's relationship to dance floors, as well as diplomatic statesmanship, and also invoke the theater by noting that it can refer to seats in the audience closest to the stage. Wittily, they even uncovered obscure connections to "the office of the public prosecutor" and "the stock exchange," and note the similarity of the sound of the word parkett to the English word parakeet, and even to the combination of the words parking lot and luncheonette. In explicating their title, the editors hinted at the richness, complexity, and pleasure that would unfold in their dialogue with people who speak different languages but share a passion for art and ideas.

Eighteen years later, *Parkett* has enlisted nearly 550 writers in addition to their artist-collaborators, and the magazine is printed in 12,000 copies. Such growth and longevity is a significant accomplishment when one looks back in the mod-



Gabriel Orozco. Light through Leaves. 1996. (Edition for Parkett 48, 1996). Iris print, 22 1/8 x 32 3/16" (56.2 x 81.8 cm). Printer: Cone-Laumont Editions, New York. Edition: 60. Frances Keech Fund. © 1996 Gabriel Orozco



Sylvie Fleury. *His Mistress' Toy.* 2000. (Edition for *Parkett* 58, 2000). Multiple of polyurethane shoe with integrated noise-maker, 3 9/16 x 7 7/8 x 4 1/2" (9 x 20 x 11.5 cm). Fabricator: T.E.S.T. Kreashens, Saugus, California. Edition: 99. Roxanne H. Frank Fund. © 2000 Sylvie Fleury ern period on the relatively short runs for periodicals that base their activities around contributions from artists. Its erratic nature notwithstanding, the tradition is a rich one. In the 1890s-a time when many artists and literary figures shared close bonds with each other and similar thematic concerns vis-à-vis Symbolism-journals such as La Revue Blanche commissioned prints to be bound into their pages or offered portfolios to subscribers. In the twentieth century, such periodicals were generated from a variety of impulses. Some were political and/or satiric, such as L'Assiette au Beurre, The Masses, and The New Masses. In other instances, artists and like-minded editors joined forces as they did during the German Expressionist period and upon the arrival of the Dada, Surrealist, and Cobra movements. In the 1960s the adventurous publication S.M.S. appeared with each issue in the form of a small portfolio containing ephemeral artworks by such artists as Christo, Roy Lichtenstein, On Kawara, and Joseph Kosuth.



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Among the most illuminating precedents for the Parkett project, however, is the work of Marcel Duchamp, whose interest in reproduction found expression through designs and inserts for periodicals and the publication of multiples. His Box in a Valise intersects tellingly with the Parkett project. In 1941 he issued his first edition of this carrving-case containing a carefully-constructed display box packed with color reproductions and miniature replicas of his past works. The artist characterized this piece as a "portable museum" and sold it over the years in various editions for a total of about 300 copies. In homage to this concept, Parkett's editors look back over the smallscale, editioned artworks created in conjunction with their journal, and characterize them as a kind of Musée en Appartement.

In addition to its collaborations with artists, Parkett provides a variety of thematic sections for the ideas and opinions of critics, historians, curators, and other writers interested in contemporary art, but it does not contain exhibition reviews or artworld news items. Several conceptual rubrics under which authors are invited to participate are as follows: "Cumulus" brings together one art professional from the United States and one from a European country to write on any subject of current interest; "Balkon" offers "observations from a certain distance, as if from a balcony rather than the seats up front in the parquet area"; and "Les Infos du Paradis" is described as including "the delicate, the unexpected, the seldom-seen, the theoretical." These various components, along with articles devoted to collaborating artists and the commissioned artworks, create a synergy that is unique to each issue and form a kind of event-between-covers. The periodical becomes a medium or, as the editors have called it, an "instrument."



Kara Walker. *Boo-Hoo*. 2000. (Edition for *Parkett* 59, 2000). Linoleum cut, 39 3/4 x 20 1/2" (101 x 52 cm). Printer: Derrière L'Étoile Studios, New York. Edition: 70. The Ralph E. Shikes Fund. © 2000 Kara Walker

#### THE EDITIONS: 1984-2001

Conceived during the period in which Neo-Expressionism held center stage in the art world, Parkett collaborated on its first issue with the Italian artist, Enzo Cucchi. For his edition, Cucchi created a rich black aquatint and drypoint that was bound into a separate copy of the journal. This version of the journal was published in an edition of 80 and was available for purchase to subscribers of the regular, trade version of Parkett. While many artists chose to make editions to be bound into special versions of the journal in this way, others created them as entirely free-standing works. As each issue of the trade version arrives, subscribers can see what the edition consists of through a reproduction and decide whether or not to purchase it.

Rebecca Horn. The Double. 1987. (Edition for Parkett 13, 1987). Multiple of silver-plated brass double-headed hammer, 10 x 3 J/8 x 1/2" (25.4 x 7.9 x 1.2 cm). Fabricator: Mechanische Werkstatt, Zurich. Edition: 99. Riva Castleman Endowment Fund, Lily Auchincloss Fund, and Gift of Parkett. © 2001 Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York/VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn



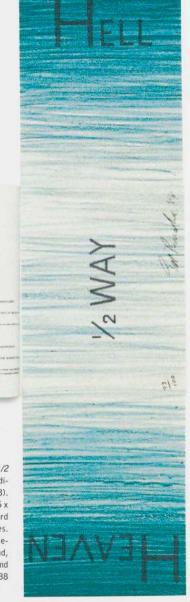
Thomas Struth. Jiangxi Zhong Lu, Shanghai 1996. 1997. (Edition for Parkett 50/51, 1997). Chromogenic color print, 16 x 19 15/16" (40.7 x 50.7 cm). Printer: the artist, Düsseldorf. Edition: 60. Riva Castleman Endowment Fund, Lily Auchincloss Fund, and Gift of Parkett. © 1997 Thomas Struth *Parkett*'s collaborating artists and the editions they have created represent a variety of artistic generations and directions. Louise Bourgeois, born in 1911, and Vanessa Beecroft, born nearly sixty years later in 1969, for example, fit within these parameters. Artistic strategies representing Neo-Conceptualism and language-based ideas, social and political themes, Pop and consumer-based imagery, performance art, feminist issues, documentary and staged photography, and pure abstraction, are all to be found in these projects.

Popular culture merges with feminist issues, for instance, when artists Mariko Mori and Sylvie Fleury bring together elements of performance art, installation, and video in their startling "products." Mori created Star Doll, her version of the ubiquitous Barbie, and Fleury duplicated a stylish shoe from the fashion line of a hot designer with Her Mistress' Toy. Both objects provoke a certain delight: there is the possibility of playing with Mori's little self-portrait figure as a child would, posing and dressing her; and one can try on Fleury's rubberized stiletto platform mule, or throw it to the dog and hear it squeak. Social and

political issues infuse the work of Kara Walker, whose black and white linoleum cut *Boo-Hoo* falls within the long tradition of incisive prints that express social injustice. Her silhouetted figure takes on an abstract and decorative shape that provokes a kind of tension when joined to her narrative of racism and exploitation. With a uniquely Californian sensibility, Ed Ruscha gives his own slant to conceptual and language-based art. In his lithograph *Hell 1/2 Way Heaven*, Ruscha takes the format of the book into consideration—involving the reader

Edward Ruscha. Hell 1/2 Way Heaven. 1988. (Edition for Parkett 18, 1988). Lithograph, 10 x 24" (25.5 x 61 cm). Printer: Edward Hamilton, Los Angeles. Edition: 80. Riva Castleman Endowment Fund, Lily Auchincloss Fund, and Gift of Parkett. © 1988 Edward Ruscha

EDITION FOR PARKET



not only in the act of unfolding his edition, which is bound into the volume, but also in deciding the orientation from which to view it.

#### THE BOOK AS MEDIUM

Ruscha's edition draws attention to the book as a creative medium. Throughout the twentieth century and into the present, there has been a proliferation of deluxe books in a tradition developed chiefly in France and known as the *livre de peintre*. Picasso, Matisse, and Miró, among many others, have linked their etchings, lithographs, woodcuts, and screenprints to literary texts with masterful results. During the 1960s an alternative phenomenon called "artists books" gained momentum; this format took advantage of the less costly technique of offset lithography for small, illustrated volumes in large editions. During this idealistic period the affordable artists books were meant to be available to a very broad audience, and the page became an alternative exhibition venue.

The structure of Parkett combines elements from both these book traditions, as well as from the exhibition catalogue, and becomes a variant genre. Artists provide many of its distinctive attributes. Their suggestions for covers include images for the front and back as well as the inside flaps. Charles Ray's cover of supermodel Tatjana Patitz is integral to the work he created for his separate edition. Executed as a standard fashion shoot, it includes credits for art direction, makeup, and hair. In contrast, his edition consists of a series of nine snapshots of that same model taken at home, where she appears not with professionally-designed makeup and hairdo, but in everyday outfits, sitting around the house, and doing everyday tasks.

Artists' interactions with the book-like quality of *Parkett* exist in many guises. Several have referenced the structure and proportions of the journal's pages. Alighiero e Boetti did this with his portrait of twins, which simulates a double-page spread and



General Idea. Insert for *Parkett* 15, 1988. Seven commercially-printed pages, 10 x 9 1/4" (25.4x 23.5 cm). Edition: size of journal's print run. © 2001 General Idea/AA Bronson

Ross Bleckner. Spine project for Parkett 19– 22, 1989. Commercially printed. Edition: size of journal's print run. © 1989. Ross Bleckner



incorporates a fold and a compositional element drawn down the center where the gutter of the magazine would be. Similarly, Günther Förg responded to the page proportions with his two sculptural editions, both of which include components to be installed side by side on the wall. Others who have incorporated the book framework include Georg Baselitz, who chose the traditional frontispiece as the location for a jewel-like drypoint, and Brice Marden and Robert Wilson, each of whom conceived foldout panels connected to prints bound into the magazine.

Some artists have devised separate books for their editions. Martin Kippenberger created eighty small, unique volumes, each with pages showing the same snapshot or found image from his personal archive. Raymond Pettibon fashioned an accordion construction that proposes a reading from left to right. Sigmar Polke subverted the act of reading with fifty unique books that look exactly like issues of *Parkett* but consist of pages rejected during the journal's printing process due to overprinting or other errors. Parkett's insert series has given page art a regular platform. Over fifty artists have participated thus far. A few have chosen to reproduce works as posters to be folded and tucked into the journal, but most have put together sequences of up to twenty pages to be bound inside. Cindy Sherman, whose photographs in series are shown together on gallery walls, generated a very different kind of anticipation, suspense, and drama with her sequence of images for *Parkett*. Damien Hirst, who has produced ambitious pop-up books among his many other mediums, provided a chilling insert on the subject of cigarette smoking.

By *Parkett's* fifteenth issue, the editors realized that the spines of a yearly set offered yet another opportunity for artistic collaboration. A composition now completes itself at the end of every year as issues arrive in the mail, are read, and then placed in sequence on the bookshelf. Christian Marclay took the opportunity to put an image of each of the four Beatles on separate spines, and Niele Toroni arranged diamond shapes to make a playing card. Ross Bleckner's abstract composition can be read as a reference to the bones of a human spine.



Raymond Pettibon. Untitled (Justly Felt and Brilliantly Said). 1996. (Edition for Parkett 47, 1996). Accordion-folded book with ten screenprints, with pencil and ink additions, and pressed flower, 9 5/8 x 76 3/4" (24.5 x 195 cm). Printer: Lorenz Boegli, Zurich. Edition: 60. Monroe Wheeler Fund. © 1996 Raymond Pettibon

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#### ART AND DISSEMINATION

Publishing in the art field is an adventurous but risky activity that has produced a wide array of artworks available in editions. Numerous examples by the most significant artists of the modern period came into being through the instigation of such historic publishers as Ambroise Vollard, Daniel-Henry Kahnweiler, Aimé Maeght, Tatyana Grosman, and others. Many of these are in the Museum's collection, and now the editions commissioned by *Parkett* are included alongside them. Sometimes referred

to as "democratic" mediums, printmaking and book formats have provided artists with distinctive forms of expression while also enlarging the community of those who have the opportunity to experience these works up close by owning them. The inventive artworks published by *Parkett*, available to a relatively broad audience, carry on this rich tradition and demonstrate its potential for new and fertile developments.

#### Deborah Wye, Chief Curator Department of Prints and Illustrated Books

#### Endnotes

- Quotations are from editorial statements in various issues of *Parkett* and from conversations with the editors in Zurich, summer 2000.
- Peter Blum eventually left to concentrate on activities in New York; Walter Keller left to found the Scalo publishing imprint. Karen Marta, Louise Neri, and now Cay Sophie Rabinowitz (assisted by Ali Subotnick) have served as New York editors. Editing and production in Zurich is coordinated by Susan Schmidt. Editions are handled by Beatrice Fässler in Zurich and Subotnick in New York.



Damien Hirst. Insert for *Parkett 32*, 1992. Thirteen commercially-printed pages, 10 x 9 1/4" (25.4 x 23.5 cm). Edition: size of journal's print run. © 1992 Damien Hirst

This brochure is made possible by the Associates of the Department of Prints and Illustrated Books, The Contemporary Arts Council, and the Young Print Collectors of The Museum of Modern Art.

Produced in conjunction with the exhibition Collaborations with Parkett: 1984 to Now April 5–June 5, 2001

This exhibition is sponsored by Joanne M. Stern and by Agnes Gund and Daniel Shapiro.

All works are in the collection of The Museum of Modern Art, New York

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### The Museum of Modern Art Department of Prints and Illustrated Books

## Parkett 42: A Focus on One Issue



Lawrence Weiner. Unter den Linden—Under Lime Trees. 1994. (Edition for Parkett 42, 1994). Multiple of rubber stamp and ink pad, housed in box with mounted screenprint, box: 4 1/2 x 10 3/8 x 9" (11.4 x 26.4 x 22.9 cm). Manufacturer: stamp by Speckert + Klein, Zurich. Printer: Lorenz Boegli, Zurich. Edition: 80. Riva Castleman Endowment Fund, Lily Auchincloss Fund, and Gift of Parkett. © 1994 Lawrence Weiner

Each volume of the journal *Parkett* produces its own synergy, based on the sum of its visual and written components. Most striking is the thoughtful selection of artists whose commissioned projects for each volume reveal connections between works that might otherwise seem unrelated. For volume 42 (December 1994), the editors selected Lawrence Weiner and Rachel Whiteread to make editioned artworks, Nan Goldin to create a page insert, and Christian Marclay to design a spine that would eventually encompass four volumes.

"I will be a tattoo on Rachel Whiteread's structures,"\* teased Weiner when invited to collaborate with *Parkett*. Both Weiner (American, b. 1942) and Whiteread (British, b. 1963) work in public modes, giving outward expression to everyday objects, places, and utterances that are often ignored. A central figure in first-generation Conceptual art, Weiner relies on words to conjure up meaning and visual experience. His edition Unter den Linden/Under Lime Trees invites viewers to stamp a sheet of paper and take it with them. The stamp's text is linked to the picture mounted on the box that houses the work: a photograph of the artist and his family strolling along Berlin's best-known boulevard, Unter den Linden, which runs eastward for nearly a mile from the Brandenburg Gate. The boulevard encapsulates Germany's complex past, symbolizing different things during different epochs-from the pinnacle of Berlin's cultural life before the war, to a symbol of Nazi power, a segregated east and west, and reunification. By inviting the endless reproduction of this phrase, Weiner's allusion extends beyond his personal travels to the myriad lives and actions played out along this historic promenade.

Similarly, Whiteread's work triggers the viewer to consider the personal histories and social interactions associated with everyday objects and places. In a twist on conventional sculpture-making, the artist uses mainly plaster or rubber to cast the empty spaces that inhabit and surround objects. Her edition *Switch* depicts the space around a light switch that Whiteread salvaged



Rachel Whiteread. Switch. 1994. (Edition for Parkett 42, 1994). Multiple of plaster and brass, 3 1/2 x 3 1/2 x 1 1/8" (8.9 x 8.9 x 2.9 cm). Fabricator: Gregory Clive Dunn and Tania Kovats, London. Edition: 60. Riva Castleman Endowment Fund, Lily Auchincloss Fund, and Gift of Parkett. © 1994. Rachel Whiteread while working on her monumental outdoor project *House*, a scaled cast of the interior of an abandoned row house in London.

In contrast to Weiner's and Whiteread's oblique references to history and memory, photographer Nan Goldin (American, b. 1953) takes a documentary approach, depicting intensely private moments in the



left: Nan Goldin. Insert for Parkett 42, 1994. Fourteen commercially-printed pages, 10 x 9 1/4" (25.4 x 23.5 cm). Edition: size of journal's print run. © 1994 Nan Goldin. Courtesy Matthew Marks Gallery, New York, and Scalo, Zurich

right: Christian Marclay. Spine project for Parkett 42–45, 1994–95. Commercially printed. Edition: size of journal's print run. © 1994 Christian Marclay

This card is made possible through the generosity of The Junior Associates of The Museum of Modern Art.

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lives of her friends. Linking the narrative structure of the book format used by *Parkett* to her own visual storytelling, Goldin sized her images to suit the journal's design. The insert consists of twelve photographs taken around the world between 1983 and 1994, and focuses on nude female subjects. Apart from a photograph of naked baby girls at a birthday party, this mélange of images, presented without chronological progression, depicts intimate and vulnerable scenes of women relaxing in the bath, standing in the shower, hovering at the edge of a lake, lying in bed, and dressing before a performance. These are moments when the world is normally shut out, and their placement within the specifically public format of a journal jolts the viewer.

While Goldin records private moments, Christian Marclay (American, b. 1955) appropriates an image from the mass media. For Parkett, Marclay-whose work mingles music and sound-production with popular culture and fine art-designed a spine that links volumes 42 through 45. Each spine carries an image of one of the Beatles; when placed together, the entire band emerges. The brightly printed reproduction is based on a promotional picture the artist culled from a photo archive in New York, and relates to other works that highlight the artist's fascination with the Beatles' iconic popularity and, more generally, with the impact of music on our daily lives. Moreover, by linking multiple volumes of Parkett, Marclay's spine project encourages us to consider the individual volumes together, and also to make connections between them.

#### Judith B. Hecker, Assistant Curator Department of Prints and Illustrated Books

\*Quoted in Bice Curiger, "Editorial," Parkett 42.

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