

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
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FOR 25 YEARS: BROOKE ALEXANDER EDITIONS

January 27 - May 17, 1994

The twenty-fifth anniversary of Brooke Alexander Editions, a leading New York publisher of contemporary prints and multiples, is commemorated in an exhibition on view at The Museum of Modern Art from January 27 through May 17, 1994. Organized by Wendy Weitman, associate curator, Department of Prints and Illustrated Books, **FOR 25 YEARS: BROOKE ALEXANDER EDITIONS** includes approximately thirty-five works by a wide range of artists, spanning all phases of the publisher's career.

"For twenty-five years Brooke Alexander Editions has published work of a singular quality and merit as well as contributed to the understanding of contemporary art through its discerning exhibitions and catalogues," Ms. Weitman writes in the brochure accompanying the exhibition. "Its sustained support for the field of printed art continues to be a significant asset to contemporary art today."

Brooke Alexander began publishing in 1968, and quickly demonstrated his ability to match artist with medium. Alexander has always been fascinated with printmaking's potential for extensive artistic expression, stating, "Prints created in series can reveal the core of an artist's concerns and intentions...[and] show something that cannot be shown in any other way."

An early collaboration was with Richard Artschwager, whose innovative six-part multiple, *Locations* (1969), marks the beginning of an intriguing series of projects by the artist and publisher. Included in the exhibition is

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the screenprint *Interior* (1972), in which a shadowy gray room is repeated, lending a murky, almost sinister feel to the elegant surroundings.

A strong interest in Conceptual art has been evident throughout Alexander's publishing career, as seen in the prints of John Baldessari, Edward Ruscha, Richard Tuttle, and, more recently, Bruce Nauman and Lorna Simpson. The exhibition also includes prints by Baldessari, Richard Long, and Lawrence Weiner, which examine the dialogue between image and language, one of the central themes of Conceptual art.

The publisher has devoted much of his efforts to figurative and abstract traditions as well, from Alex Katz's landmark illustrated book, *Face of a Poet* (1978), and Richard Bosman's expressionist woodcuts to Minimal statements by Donald Judd and Robert Mangold. Judd's three untitled woodcut portfolios of 1988 are an exceptional example of an artist exploring the flexibility of the print medium. He began with ten woodcuts printed in black, red, and blue editions. In 1990 he added further complexities, layering additional bold colors in stencil onto his woodcut compositions for a new series of untitled prints.

FOR 25 YEARS: BROOKE ALEXANDER EDITIONS is part of an ongoing series of exhibitions at The Museum of Modern Art celebrating the collaboration of publishers and artists.

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For further information or photographic materials, contact Rynn Williams, Department of Public Information, 212/708-9755.