

Zurich, July 2012

Press release: IAN ANÜLL - EDITIONS

22 August – 19 October 2012

Opening: Tuesday 21 August 2012, 18.00

Ian Anüll began to publish his small, self-produced art books in the 1970s. His body of technical reproductions is still manageable, but it has expanded greatly. Its publicist element, perforce associated with prints and multiples, has been and remains very important to him today.

Whenever Anüll had access to a printing studio he seized the opportunity and produced prints and print series. In the mid-1980s he created an important silkscreen series at the Centre genevois de gravure contemporaine, where he printed on various different materials. A year later he produced a woodcut series there which, in a blast of originality, comprised cooperation with 16 different artists. Tamach Taub, Teres Wydler, Paul Viaccoz, Remi Dall'Aglio, Andreas Hofer, Françoise Lienhard, Alex Hanimann, Roman Signer, Daniel Zimmermann, Philipp Deléglise, Michel Ritter, Paul Marie, Daniel Berset, Josef Felix Müller, Jürg Egli and Cécile Wick were each simply required to create something on a woodblock; the format of all woodblocks was identical. Without knowing the resulting woodcuts Anüll then created a second woodblock of exactly the same dimensions for each artist, and took prints from both woodblocks. The overlaps or overprints were surprising, as the dual works' titles reflect: Pile – Face, corresponding to the English 'heads or tails'. In Roman Signer's case the consonance was astonishing, as if Anüll had known that Signer would shoot at the wood plate. Indeed, Anüll cut two forms that resembled military targets.

In addition to prints and print series, Anüll created art books and (from the late 1980s) numerous multiples. Among these is one which may today be described as an icon of its genre: a multiple in black, red and gold (a red and black egg-holder with six golden eggs) inspired by the unification of Germany.

The ETH Graphische Sammlung is now exhibiting all of Anüll's editions for the first time. A publication and a catalogue with images of all the associated works accompany the exhibition:

Ian Anüll, *Editionen. Mit Beiträgen von Gerhard Mack, Bernhard Mendez Bürgi und Paul Tanner*
Konstanze Forst-Battaglia (compiler), catalogue: 104 pages, 168 images in colour and b/w,
bound. CHF 39.00, ISBN 978-3-7965-2851-4; Schwabe Verlag Basel

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