



MIXOGRAFIA®

1419 East Adams Boulevard Los Angeles, California 90011
T: [323-232-1158] F: [323-232-1655] www.mixografia.com

PRESS INFORMATION

JOHN BALDESSARI

OCTOBER 2009

A B C ART (Low Relief): A/Ant, Etc. (Keyboard), 2009

Mixografia® print on handmade paper in 26-parts ~ ed. 20

12 x 23 x 1 inches ~ 30.5 x 58.5 x 2.4 cm (each part)

44 x 259 inches ~ 112 x 658 cm (installed)

Mixografia® is pleased to present a one-person show of a monumental print in 26 parts by Los Angeles based artist JOHN BALDESSARI (American, b. 1931). Presented at the workshop gallery, the artist has conceived “A B C Art (Low Relief): A/Ant, Etc. (Keyboard),” 2009, printed from a series of twenty-six (26) individual copper 3-dimensional printing plates to construct a dynamic illustration of the tools of language installed on a single wall configured as a typing keyboard.

The sequence of prints further contributes to a lifetime of accumulating found imagery in his ongoing summation of the idiosyncratic and sublime. Baldessari has employed his familiar minimalist attitude of paring image with text – in this case an alpha-character – for the largest single group of prints ever produced by the workshop.

From his most recent explorations of working in dimension, Baldessari has generated images from both found and fabricated objects building through a reductive underpinning of an intangible notion of the infinite by way of written language. Again the artist offers choices, comparisons, and sometimes direction in the observation of the total work or fragments from the whole. A direct and literal approach is developed through story book-like illustrations playing on the memory of one’s own experience.

The participatory aspect of the piece is an invitation to become an accessory to the art. This playfulness at first glance can be both comfortable and confusing as one is forced to search out the associations that may have escaped attention upon further introspection.

Returning from summer accolades at the 2009 Venice Biennale where he was awarded the *Golden Lion* for Lifetime Achievement for the Arts, Baldessari’s recent projects include current solo shows in London & Paris. His first ever complete retrospective in printmaking dating back to his rare first lithograph, *I Will Not Make Any More Boring Art*, 1971, continues at the de Young Museum of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco until November 8, 2009, and is slated to travel nationally. His 40-year retrospective has just opened at the TATE Modern in London and will travel to the Museu d’Art Contemporani de Barcelona, LACMA – Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York throughout the 2010 and 2011 seasons.

For further information contact: gallery@mixografia.com