

BEN BROWN FINE ARTS



Alighiero Boetti, *Quando Le Parole Sono Stanche*, 1982 © Fondazione Alighiero Boetti

ALIGHIERO BOETTI

Works on Paper 1967 – 1983

9 June – 20 September 2017

Ben Brown Fine Arts is thrilled to announce its second solo exhibition of works on paper by Alighiero Boetti, one of the most important and influential Italian artists of the twentieth century. The exhibition will present an extensive survey of Boetti's works on paper of different dates, formats and sizes: from monochromatic to multi-coloured, and from formal rigour to a more expressionistic visual vocabulary.

Among the works are a group of *biro* works from the 1970s and 1980s. Notably *Mettere al Mondo il Mondo* (1973), *La Metà e il Doppio* (1974) and *Quando le Parole Sono Stanche* (1982), painstakingly executed by the artist's assistants in his Rome atelier. Among them is a very rare "self-portrait" from 1973, titled *Alighieroboetti*, of which only two exist.

Alighiero Boetti was born in Turin in 1940. His first works created in the 1960s were object-based and fitted within the realms of Arte Povera. However, his work became progressively more like that of conceptual artists such as On Kawara (time) and Lawrence Wiener (language). Boetti used simple and often industrial materials, concentrating more on the creative conception of the work and leaving its execution to others – such as the embroideries produced by Afghani women. This also enabled Boetti to integrate Eastern culture and its tradition in his works (often represented by Farsi writing) given his interest in the principle of polar forces and harmonies, bridging West and East.

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Ben Brown Fine Arts opened its first location on Cork Street in the heart of Mayfair, London, in 2004. The gallery has prominently positioned itself on the contemporary art scene with the sole UK representation of artists such as Ron Arad, Tony Bevan, Ori Gersht, Candida Höfer, Claude & François-Xavier Lalanne, Heinz Mack, Vik Muniz, Gavin Turk and Not Vital. Also renowned for its strong expertise in 20th century Italian art, the gallery has been exhibiting the work of Alighiero Boetti and Lucio Fontana, amongst others, since its inception. In 2008, Ben Brown Fine Arts opened a new exhibition space on Brook's Mews, also in Mayfair, designed by architect Alexander Maybank. The office and viewing room are conveniently located across from the gallery space. In 2009, the gallery took its first step in an international expansion with the opening of an exhibition space in Hong Kong designed by André Fu.

FOR FURTHER PRESS INFORMATION AND ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT:

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