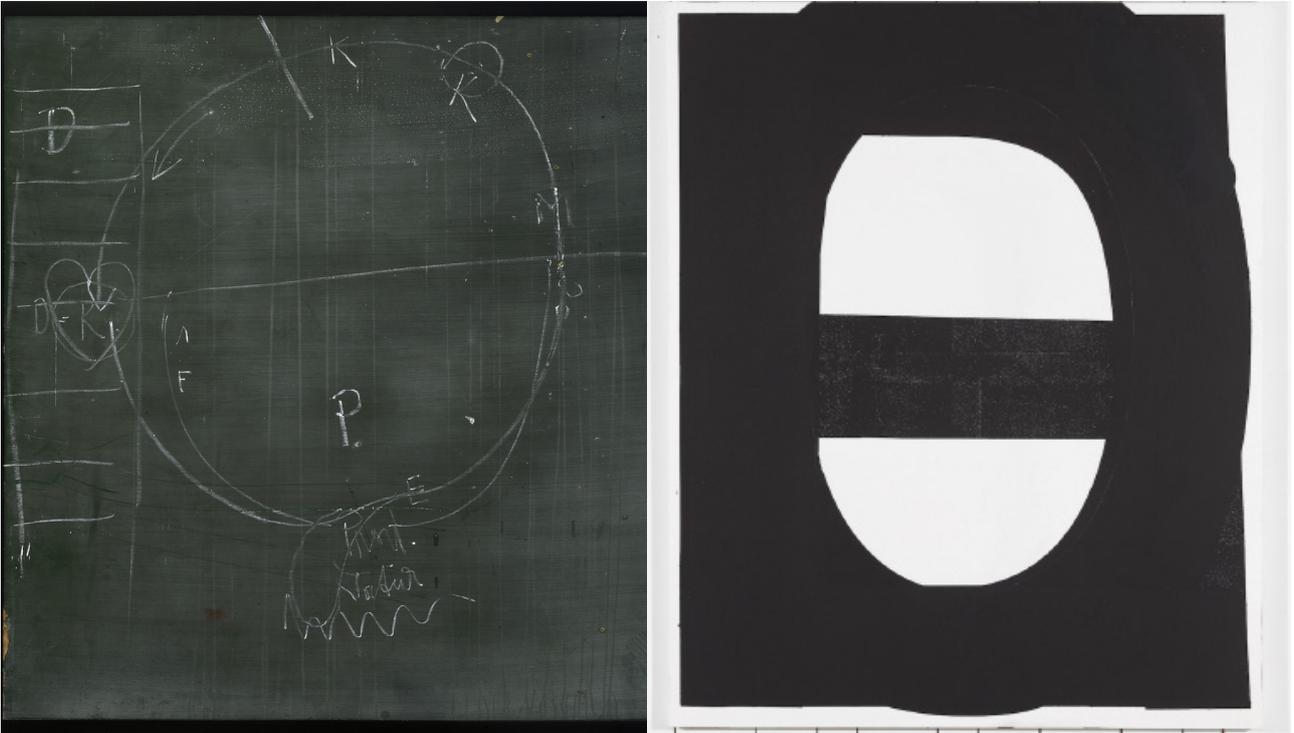


LUXEMBOURG & DAYAN



Joseph Beuys, *Double Blackboard*, 1978 (detail) - left  
Will Boone, *Load*, 2005 - right

# WORD BY WORD

curated by Francesco Bonami  
30th June - 5th September 2015

Luxembourg & Dayan announces *Word by Word*, a survey exhibition of artworks from the '60s to present day that feature text as image and present language as an artistic medium. Curated by Francesco Bonami, it draws together works by Carl Andre, Nanni Balestrini, Joseph Beuys, Alighiero Boetti, Will Boone, Mark Flood, Marine Hugonnier, Joseph Kosuth, Barbara Kruger, Glenn Ligon, Richard Prince, Tim Rollins & K.O.S., Ed Ruscha, Rirkrit Tiravanija, Betty Tompkins, Ben Vautier, Lawrence Weiner, Christopher Wool and more, to present a short history of pictorial language.

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## L U X E M B O U R G & D A Y A N

Text has played a vital part in the developments of twentieth century art; from the collaged inclusions of newspapers in Cubist canvases, through René Magritte's lessons in the opacity of language, Marcel Duchamp's anti-retinal explorations of art's frontiers and Pop Art's appropriation of advertisement slogans and comic strip. The role of words in art has gained increasing complexity since the late '60s when language literally supplanted images, reaching a conceptual apogee in those dematerialised works that demanded the viewer be a reader, and vice versa. *Word by Word* celebrates the visual poetry that has thrived over the past fifty years in this slippage between semiotics and aesthetics to involve the viewer in a conversation across time and continent conducted through the silent cacophony of reverberating words.



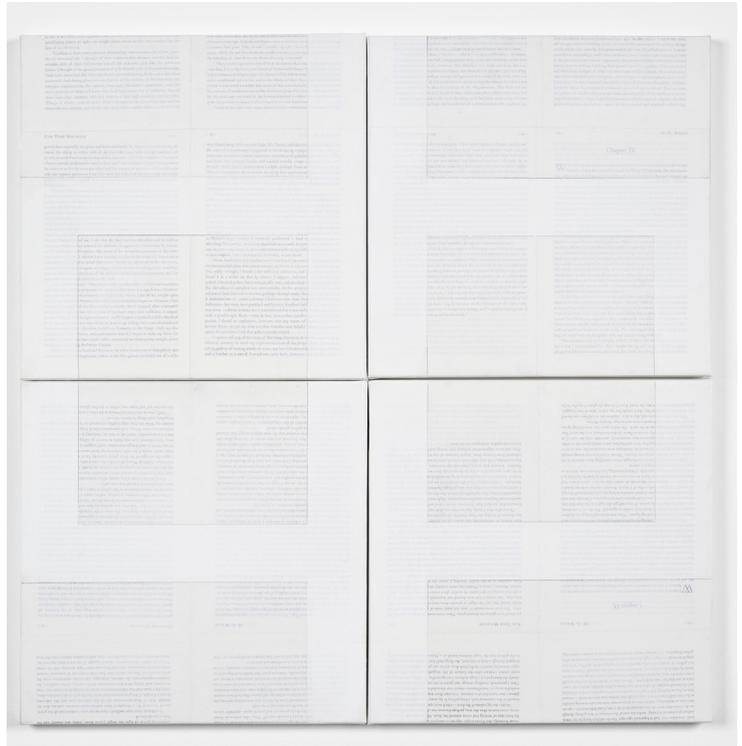
Joseph Kosuth, *One and Three Lamps*, 1965

The exhibition speaks through a diversity of media, from Beuys' iconic chalked blackboards to Ligon's recent coal dusted interrogations of language, encompassing newspaper, book pages, vinyl lettering, paint, ink and graphite. Its graphics range from print to écriture, taking in cursive script, upper-case communication, hand- and spray-painted lettering, collaged newspapers depicted magazines. From the text landscapes of Andre, in which words become modular units carrying both pattern and poem; to Kosuth's manifestations of art as "itself philosophy made concrete"; Boetti's exquisitely drawn magazine covers; Kruger's commanding conjunction of cut up phrases and images; the collaged poetry of Balestrini; Prince's verbal jokes and visual puns; and the fine line trod between legibility and abstraction in Will Boone's compressed and fraying words, *Word by Word* will explore painting converged into poetry and poetry converged into painting, and the myriad complexions that lie in between.

## LUXEMBOURG & DAYAN

### FRANCESCO BONAMI

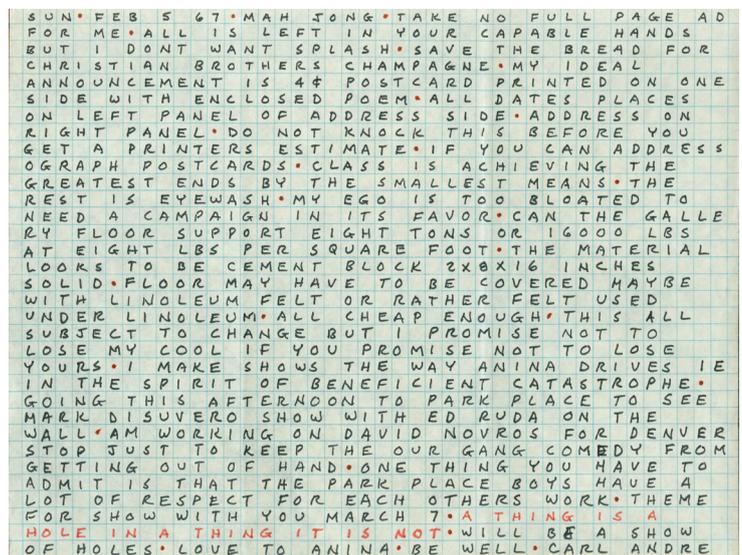
Francesco Bonami was born in Florence in 1955, moving to New York in 1986 where he has lived since. A writer, critic and former painter, he is most celebrated for his role as a curator. From 1995 to 2014, Bonami was the Artistic Director of the Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo in Turin; from 2004 to 2008, he was the artistic director of Centro di Arte Contemporanea Villa Manin; and from 1999 to 2009 he was the Manilow Senior Curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago. His many major exhibitions include the 75th Whitney Biennial of American Art (2010), the 50th edition of the Biennale di Venezia for Visual Arts, *Dreams and Conflicts — The Dictatorship of the Viewer* (2003) and *Manifesta 3, Borderline Syndrome* in Ljubljana (2000).



Tim Rollins & K.O.S., *THE TIME MACHINE II* (after H.G. Wells), 2013

### LUXEMBOURG & DAYAN

Launched in 2009, Luxembourg & Dayan presents curated, museum-quality exhibitions of works by modern and contemporary artists across gallery spaces in New York and in London. The gallery has held a number of critically-acclaimed exhibitions, including historical presentations of artists, such as Mario Schifano, Alberto Burri and Domenico Gnoli. *Word by Word* continues Luxembourg & Dayan's series of thematic survey exhibitions, which since 2011 has included *Grisaille*, *Unpainted Paintings*, *The Shaped Canvas*, *That Obscure Object of Desire*, *Thick Paint* and *The Shaped Canvas, Revisited*.



Carl Andre, *SUN FEB 5 67 MAH JONG TAKE NO FULL PAGE AD*, 1967

### NOTES TO EDITORS

Luxembourg & Dayan is open: Tuesday to Friday 11am-5pm; Saturday 12pm-4pm; or by appointment. Press enquiries & images: Gair Burton (gair@picklespr.com) or Cristina Giusti (cristina@picklespr.com).