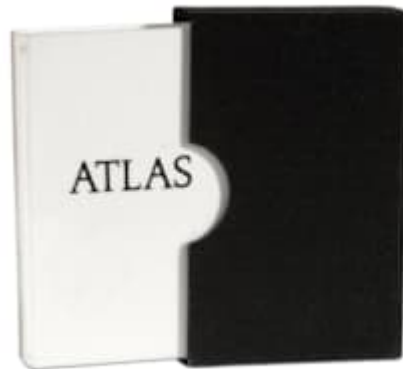




Marcel Broodthaers (Brussels 1924 - Cologne 1976)

La Conquête de l'espace. Atlas à l'usage des artistes et des militaires, 1975

Offset

38 x 25 mm

38 pp., wrappers, black cardboard slipcase

This is number 46 in an edition of: • 50 copies (1-50) • 5 artist's copies (I-V)

The edition was intended to be signed by the artist, but due to his untimely death the copies were signed with the estate stamp: Estate Marcel Broodthaers.

The book's printing films were subsequently used for the graphic work Atlas (see this catalogue.)

Published by Lebeer Hossmann, Brussels

Literature:

Jan Ceuleers, *Marcel Broodthaers - The Complete Prints and Books*, Galerie Ronny Van de Velde, Antwerp, 2012, p. 58-59, no. 46

Artist description:

Marcel Broodthaers began his career as a poet, making his first work of art—a sculpture consisting of his unsold books of poetry—at the age of 40. Broodthaers's work shows varied compositions between sculpting/constructions and poetry. His deep concern with language and linguistic conventions made him play with ideas and double meanings of words. He played with the authorship and uniqueness of the words which revealed the cultural stereotypes and symbols of national identity embedded in

everyday forms of communication. He introduced language in his art and used some raw materials like the shells of eggs or mussels, but also furniture, clothing, garden tools, household gadgets and reproductions of artworks. Marcel Broodthaers stands out among the 'conceptual' artists who often employ philosophical language, but seldom with mastery. While most of his colleagues work away unhindered by this lack of knowledge, Broodthaers always knows more than he states. From beginning to end, he keeps mixing high and low culture in a way at once subtle and disruptive.