

ARTISTS' EDITIONS AT PARKETT

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Over the years, the Artists' Editions of Parkett have acquired considerable renown. Virtually every major artist of the past two decades has contributed, resulting in a roster of participants that reads like a "Who's Who" of recent contemporary art. What makes these Editions so remarkable, however, is the fact that the works have been created especially for Parkett with publisher and artist working in close cooperation to produce the Parkett "Collaborations." Among them, art lovers will not find the usual stock in trade, but rather specific formats, ingenious ways of linking up with the medium of a journal, medial transferrals, the conversion of the photograph into an art print-in short, the mutually fruitful insemination of artistic media: sculpture and sound, paper object and poster, multiple object and unique work, photograph and video, picture and text, drawing and print, or painting and computer print.

In addition, a singularity of concept endows these pictures, objects, videos, and photographs with an aura not ordinarily associated with multiples. Possibly this is due as well to the fact that one tends to look at them as zeitgeist objects, as a fetish for an artistic epoch, acquired not solely as the output of a certain artist but more importantly as objects that refer back to the artist and his/her work. In contrast to the mainstream art market, people do not buy a Richter or a Polke or a Cindy Sherman but rather something exceptionally ingenious, something unusual, characteristic, or witty in reference to the artist, epoch, or particular medium. Collectors acquire Parkett Editions out of enjoyment and delight in collecting, for these works possess a highly personal appeal that merely enhances the impact of their zeitgeist. This fortuitous combination is indeed worth presenting to the public in the context of a museum space that offers the intimacy of a cabinet.

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