



David Robilliard

Opening: 13 March 2009, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Duration: 14 March –18 April 2009

Location: ScheiblerMitte
Charlottenstraße 2
(in the alley)
10969 Berlin

David Robilliard's art is exceptional and unique. Born in 1952 on the channel island Guernsey, the poet and painter left for the art metropolis London in the 70s. It is here that he met Gilbert & George, who became his greatest supporters and admirers and viewed him not only as their favorite artist but also as *the* model of modern man: "The new master of the modern person. Looking, thinking, feeling, seeing, bitching--he brilliantly encapsulates the 'Existens' spirit of our time." In 1987 the artist duo published his first volume of poems *Inevitable*; seven more were to follow. His poetic and artistic work is characterized by unconventionality, naivety, and authenticity. As an autodidact, Robilliard did not belong to any artistic school. His art, comprised of writing and simple outline drawings, is based on his poetic talent and is marked by a fresh directness and uncompromising honesty. David Robilliard seems now more than ever to be a forerunner of the so-called YBA.

David Robilliard died of AIDS in 1988 at the age of 36. His artwork, encompassing 61 paintings and a few hundred works on paper, is found in large institutional collections such as the Museum of Modern Art, New York. The Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam honored Robilliard's singular style posthumously in 1993 in a comprehensive solo show ("A Roomful of Hungry Looks"), whose out-of-print catalogue forms his catalogue raisonné.

We are very pleased to be able to present this extraordinary artist for the first time in Berlin.

Image: David Robilliard, Box of Tricks – My Ass, 1987, Acrylic on canvas, 122 x 122 cm / 48 x 48 in., Courtesy Aurel Scheibler, Berlin, © David Robilliard