Among the conceptual artists who work with the language, Robert Barry occupies an important place, at the age of visual art, poetry and philosophy. Conceptual art is - much more than a revolution of the visual forms of art - a fundamental rethink of the function of art and artists in a changing cultural context.

The ideas and works by Robert Barry make significant contribution to the definition of this new apprehension of art.

For this reason we pay tribute to his work, bringing together for the first time all the works published by mfc-michèle didier.

The collaboration between Robert Barry and mfc-michèle didier begins in 2006 with *Art Lovers*. Published in 270 numbered copies and 30 artist's proofs, this singular work takes form in a box containing 72 unbounded plates on which are printed the black and white portrait of 72 "art lovers". These portraits, covered with a flat black layer, are partially visible and if we distinguish some fragments of mouth or nose, it is only due to the "breakthrough" of statements commonly used by the artist. The words Absurd, Imminent or Expect give us an insight but do not reveal. Any identification of these Art Lovers is tricky, if not impossible.

In *One Billion Colored Dots*, Robert Barry imagines 25 volumes, each with 40,000,000 dots, for a total of one billion colored dots. The work is printed in as many colors as volumes: each volume has its own color. A quantifiable accumulation and resolutely oriented toward the construction of meaning. Edited in 30 numbered and signed copies and 5 artist's proofs, this work is fascinating because of its rigor and its capacity to contain a "whole", which nevertheless exceeds us. Together with this publication, mfc-michèle didier published a digital and monochrome version entitled *One Billion Dots*, designed for projection edited as well in 30 numbered and signed copies and 5 artist's proofs.

With **Something in a Box**, the content is a "something", gathered in the form of 62 cards placed in a walnut box. Each of these cards proposes a different statement, stated by the artist forty years ago. The first one introduces the 61 following: SOMETHING IN A BOX... and then 61 statements that are supposed to define SOMETHING, the essence of which remains irrevocably unknown. Published in 2014 with 24 numbered and signed copies and 6 artist proofs, this work of great poetry recalls from its invoice the importance of the role of the typewriter in the work of Robert Barry.

Following his own composition method established in 1969, Robert Barry proposes in 2016 with **Somethings that...**, a limited edition of 24 sets of 3 parts numbered and signed and 6 artist proofs on which appear 3 statements. The two first statements are common to all of the sets, however the third one is specific for each sets and in that way, is creating 24 original propositions.

If Barry uses words, play with them, put them in a stage or question them, the statement of **Somethings that...** has the particularity not to allow the conception of an image but to generate informal thoughts. Even if the statement are significant and grammatically correct, any image or visual transcription can emerge in the spirit of the reader. Only the thoughts remain.



Robert Barry

Art Lovers
72 pages, 27.6 x 27.6 cm

Slipcase, 28.8 x 28.8 x 2.5 cm

Limited edition of 270 numbered copies and 30 artist's proofs

Produced and published in 2006 by mfc-michèle didier

©2006 Robert Barry and mfc-michèle didier



Robert Barry

One Billion Colored Dots

Set of 25 volumes

27.6 x 18.6 cm each volume

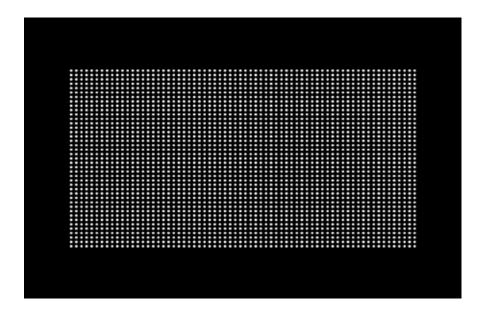
2008 pages per each volume, total of 50.200 pages

2008

Limited edition of 30 numbered and signed copies and 5 artist's proofs

Produced and published in 2008 by mfc-michèle didier

©2008 Robert Barry and mfc-michèle didier



2 discs:

• DVD 0-Zone:

60'

b&w, silent

• Complete version CD:

358 823 sec

5980,383333 min

99,6730555 hours

4,153043981 days

b&w, silent

Limited edition of 30 numbered and signed copies and 5 artist's proofs Produced and published in 2008 by mfc-michèle didier

©2008 Robert Barry and mfc-michèle didier



Robert Barry
Something in a Box
62 statements on index cards
Each index card measures 10.2 x 15.2 cm
The index cards are placed in a box made of walnut wood
The box measures 12.4 x 17.4 x 4.9 cm
Limited edition of 24 numbered and signed copies and 6 artist's proofs
Produced and published in 2014 by mfc-michèle didier
©2014 Robert Barry and mfc-michèle didier



MAY CHANGE YOUR APPROACH TO LIFE

Robert Barry Something in a Box, detail 62 statements on index cards Each index card measures 10.2 x 15.2 cm The index cards are placed in a box made of walnut wood The box measures 12.4 x 17.4 x 4.9 cm Limited edition of 24 numbered and signed copies and 6 artist's proofs Produced and published in 2014 by mfc-michèle didier ©2014 Robert Barry and mfc-michèle didier



Robert Barry Somethings that...

Set of three sheets of paper in a cardboard portfolio mounted in grey paper Each set contains two mutual statements and one specific statement

Each set is unique

Sheet of paper: 27.9 x 21.5 cm each Portfolio: 27.98 x 21.54 x 0.6 cm Offset print on Munken Lynx, 150 g Certificate signes and numbered by the artist

Limited edition of 24 sets of 3 sheets of paper numbered and signed and 6 artist's proofs

Produced and published in 2016 by mfc-michèle didier

©2016 Robert Barry and mfc-michèle didier

Something that I thought I knew very well, but about which I was completely wrong.

Robert Barry

Somethings that..., detail

Set of three sheets of paper in a cardboard portfolio mounted in grey paper
Each set contains two mutual statements and one specific statement
Each set is unique
Sheet of paper: 27.9 x 21.5 cm each
Portfolio: 27.98 x 21.54 x 0.6 cm
Offset print on Munken Lynx, 150 g
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Limited edition of 24 sets of 3 sheets of paper numbered and signed and 6 artist's proofs
Produced and published in 2016 by mfc-michèle didier

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