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MARCEL DUCHAMP Boîte-en-valise

22 April 2004 to 22 May 2004

Susan Inglett in conjunction with Specific Object and Virginia Green is pleased to present an exhibition featuring Marcel Duchamp's Boîte-en-valise number O/XX for Kay Boyle. The work will be on display from 22 April to 22 May 2004.

Beginning in 1936, after declaring an end to his art making, Duchamp began a life long project producing editioned, boxed, stylized facsimiles of his oeuvre, which he dubbed "de or par Marcel Duchamp ou Rose Sélavy." More than mere reproductions of his now famous works, the Boîte became a three-dimensional, miniature, personal museum for Duchamp's output from 1910 through 1940. Perhaps an intimate traveling companion for the itinerant traveler, the Boîte defined how the artist critically viewed his own output, and contextualized how he wished others to do so in providing a self referential, hermetic, compendium of sixty nine of his works.

In seven distinct series, lettered A through G and issued between 1941 and 1968, nearly 300 Boîte were produced. However, only Series A is formally known as the Boîte-en-valise - or Box in a Valise titled for the leather suitcase that encompasses the Boîte. Only twenty-four of this edition were produced each made by hand by Duchamp, each of which incorporates a unique work made specifically for the original purchaser.

The work featured in this exhibition is numbered O/XX, inscribed for Kay Boyle in 1943, and was shown within many of Duchamp's most important exhibitions, including his 1963 retrospective at the Pasadena Museum of Art; "Not Seen and/or Less Seen from or by Marcel Duchamp or Rose Sélavy," at the Cordier & Ekstrom Gallery, New York, 1965; and Duchamp's retrospective at the Tate Gallery London in 1966 before becoming "lost." This particular work features a unique hand-colored work by Duchamp based on the lower half of Duchamp's Grand Verre [Large Glass] now in the collection of the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Now "found" the O/XX Kay Boyle represents one of the very few examples of the Boîte-en-valise in private hands today.

The exhibition will be on view at Susan Inglett Gallery located 535 West 22 Street/6 Floor Tuesday to Saturday 10 AM to 6 PM. For additional information please contact Susan Inglett at 212/647-9111, fax 212/647-9333 or info@inglettgallery.com.