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BRUCE CONNER THE DENNIS HOPPER ONE MAN SHOW VOLUME III

18 September 2001 - 27 October 2001

Susan Inglett is pleased to exhibit BRUCE CONNER and THE DENNIS HOPPER ONE MAN SHOW VOLUME III. The exhibition will run from 18 September to 27 October.

"There's a point in time when I started self-consciously gluing the world down and making it mine, putting my name on it and hanging it on the wall". In this 1990 interview with Robert Dean, Bruce Conner could as easily be discussing the genesis of his work in film, collage, or assemblage. Not one to restrict his art making to a single medium, Conner has nonetheless remained fascinated by a single act. That single act manifests itself beautifully in the wood engraving collages and subsequent etchings, THE DENNIS HOPPER ONE MAN SHOW.

Working in secrecy, the paper collages were pieced together beginning about 1959 from 19th century wood engravings which Conner had collected or accumulated. These works on paper were produced concurrent to the film and assemblage for which he had become known. Taking advantage of the public's ignorance of this new and seemingly disparate body of work, and of the technique's association with another artist, Max Ernst, Conner decided to attribute the collages to yet another artist, Dennis Hopper. The unwillingness of a dealer to exhibit the work under another's name and the unwillingness of the artist to reveal his identity, led to their relative obscurity.

It was not until the late Sixties when Kathan Brown invited Conner to work at

Crown Point Press that the wood engraving collages were resurrected. Working backward, Conner returned the collages to their original printed state.

The etchings, twenty six in all, were published, bound in three black leather volumes and titled collectively THE DENNIS HOPPER ONE MAN SHOW. Acting simultaneously as art work and as foil for a larger conceptual project, this series is considered by many to be among Conner's major works.

THE DENNIS HOPPER ONE MAN SHOW VOLUME III will focus on the largest and final volume of the series. Also on view will be the first of what will ultimately be eight prints taken from the re-worked plates of Volume I.

The work will be on view at the gallery located 100 Wooster Street/2 Floor Tuesday to Saturday 11 AM to 6 PM.

For more information contact Susan Inglett at 212/343-0573 and fax 212/343-0574.