

For Immediate Release, March 13, 2015

Dan Basen: Collage and Assemblage 1960-1965

March 26-June 6, 2015

Opening Reception: Thursday, March 26, 6-8pm

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Allan Stone Projects is pleased to present **Dan Basen: Collage and Assemblage 1960-1965**, on view March 26-June 6, 2015 in conjunction with the gallery's exhibition, Arman and César. The works on view feature the artist's association with the ready-made tradition by reordering common manufactured items into collaged or sculptural works. Using everyday objects such as matches, candy wrappers, soda bottles, and art supplies, Basen formalized common materials into rectangular grids or assembled them in metal boxes.



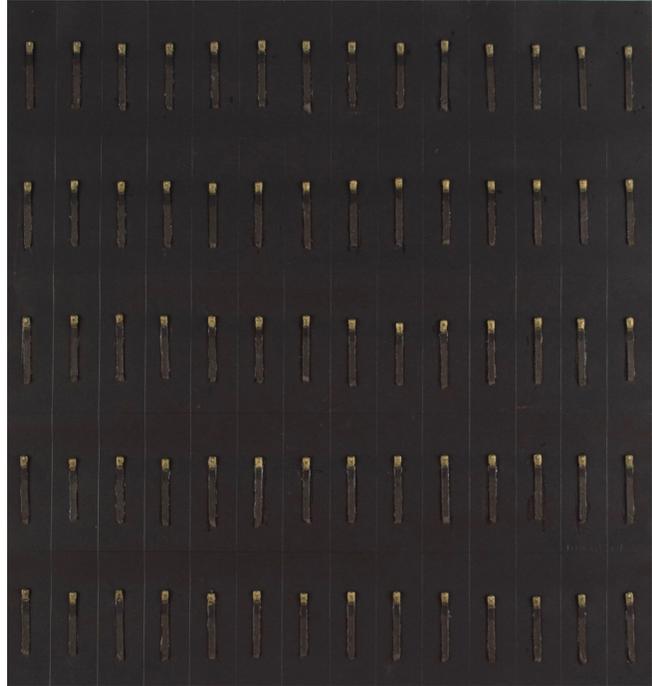
Dan Basen
Untitled, mid-1960s
Mixed media construction
13 x 11 1/2 x 2 in.
33 x 29.2 x 5.1 cm

At the core of Basen's work is the act of stripping objects from their original intended use and highlighting their pure "objectness." Basen's focus is similar to that of Arman who also created vitrines of objects, achieving domination and order over the inanimate object to reflect on its materialness. As if trying to secure meaning or authority over a world becoming ever more complex and uncontrollable, Basen compelled the viewer to scrutinize everyday objects in their environment. Defeated by the battle he tried to win in his art, Basen tragically committed suicide in 1970.

Dan Basen was born in 1939 in Poughkeepsie, New York. The artist received his BS in Art Education from State University of New York at New Paltz in 1961, and an MFA from the Rinehart School of Sculpture at the Maryland Institute College of Art in 1963. He briefly continued his studies at the Brooklyn Museum of Art School in 1963-64. During his brief career, Basen received numerous accolades, including an annual fellowship at the Rinehart School of Sculpture (1961-63), a Hamburger

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Award for Sculpture from the Baltimore Museum of Art (1962), a Peabody Fellowship of the Peabody Institute of the City of Baltimore (1962), and a Museum Purchase Prize from the Baltimore Museum of Art (1963). Basen's work has been featured in numerous museum exhibitions, including shows at the Baltimore Museum of Art and the Whitney Museum Downtown, both of which own the artist's work, as well as the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston, the Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. Basen had solo exhibitions at Allan Stone Gallery, and was featured in group exhibitions at Betty Parsons Gallery, Byron Gallery, and Matthew Marks Gallery.



Dan Basen
Untitled, 1964
Matches and mixed media on paper
14 3/4 x 12 in.
37.5 x 30.5 cm

Allan Stone Projects is the exclusive representative of the Allan Stone Collection, comprised of modern masterworks, contemporary art, tribal and folk art, Americana, and important decorative arts and industrial design. The gallery curates scholarly exhibitions, produces original publications, advises collectors, and participates in art fairs. Allan Stone Projects (formerly Allan Stone Gallery) opened in its current space in November 2013, following fifty years on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. Founded in 1960 by visionary connoisseur and dealer Allan Stone (1932-2006), the gallery has been admired for over half a century. Today its prodigious inventory stands as a unique amalgam in which major tendencies in Modern art can be traced and celebrated across decades.

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Hours: Tuesday–Saturday 10 am–6 pm