

In Deed: *Certificates of Authenticity in Art*
November 3–December 9, 2012

The Lab

Opening Reception: Friday, November 2, 6–8pm

For further information and images, please contact
Molly Gross, *Communications Director*, The Drawing Center
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September 12, 2012

New York – The Drawing Center presents *In Deed: Certificates of Authenticity in Art*, on view in The Lab from November 3–December 9, 2012. This traveling exhibition is organized by independent curators Susan Hapgood and Cornelia Lauf.

Certificates of authenticity are a critical aspect of art works today. Often they even embody the artwork itself, while also referring to it, serving as its deed, legal statement, and fiscal invoice. Certificates by artists validate the authorship and originality of the work, allowing it to be positioned in the marketplace as a branded product – no matter how immaterial or transient that product may be. Certificates have legal and ontological implications that make them fascinating documents of changing attitudes toward art and the role of artists.

Providing examples of artists' certificates from the past fifty years, this exhibition reveals how roles have shifted and developed, as well as how the materials and content of art have changed. Concise didactic texts will assist the viewer in contextualizing each inclusion in the presentation. Objects in the exhibition range from the most official-looking printed documents, with their imprimatur of institutionalization, to dashed-off notations that perform the same function in constituting and defining the parameters of a given art work.

In Deed: Certificates of Authenticity in Art has traveled to The Netherlands, Venice, New Delhi, Mumbai, Rome, Chicago, and Istanbul, and makes its last stop at The Drawing Center.

ABOUT THE CURATORS

Susan Hapgood is founder and director of the Mumbai Art Room, and Senior Advisor for Independent Curators International (ICI), New York, where she formerly worked as Director of Exhibitions. She has worked in a curatorial capacity at the Guggenheim Museum and the New Museum of Contemporary Art, and has curated numerous exhibitions, including *FluxAttitudes*, *Neo-Dada: Redefining Art 1958-62*, and *Slightly Unbalanced*. Hapgood has authored numerous catalogues and magazine articles for journals including *Frieze*, *Art in America*, and *FlashArt*, and lectured extensively at institutions such as New York University and the New School, New York; Northwestern University, Chicago; College Art Association, Dallas; Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya, Mumbai; and at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. She received a B.A. from the University of Rochester and M.A. in Art History from the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University.

Cornelia Lauf is a writer, curator and editor of artist's books. She received a doctorate in art history from Columbia University, and began her career at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York. She has written for magazines and institutional publications ranging from *Artscribe* and *Arts Magazine*, during the 1980s, to her present reviews from Italy for *Art in America*. She was the founder of Camera Oscura, an alternative space devoted to craft, art, and agriculture, in a rural community in Tuscany. She is the editor and a co-founder of Three Star Books, a publishing house devoted to artist's books, based in Paris. She has organized exhibitions at the New Museum of Contemporary Art; Chicago Museum of Contemporary Art; Busch-Reisinger Museum, Harvard; Casa di Goethe, Rome; and the Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna, Rome, among others. Lauf is a Professor of Art at the Faculty of Art and Design at IUAV, University of Venice, and lives and works in Rome.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Thursday, November 8, 6pm

Discussion with artist Liam Gillick and librarian and archivist Ann Butler.

PUBLICATION

Catalogue edited by Susan Hapgood and Cornelia Lauf.

ABOUT THE DRAWING CENTER

The Drawing Center is the only not-for-profit fine arts institution in the country to focus solely on the exhibition of drawings, both historical and contemporary. It was established in 1977 to provide opportunities for emerging and under-recognized artists; to demonstrate the significance and diversity of drawings throughout history; and to stimulate public dialogue on issues of art and culture.

HOURS & ACCESSIBILITY

Gallery hours are Wednesday, 12pm–6pm, Thursday, 12pm–8pm, and Friday–Sunday, 12pm–6pm (closed Mondays and Tuesdays). The Drawing Center is wheelchair accessible.

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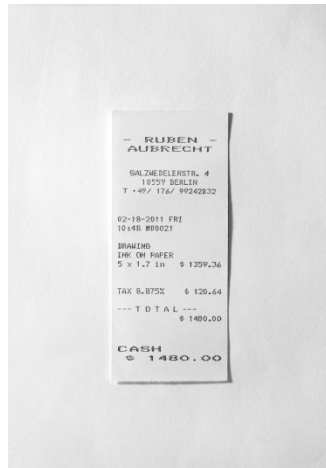
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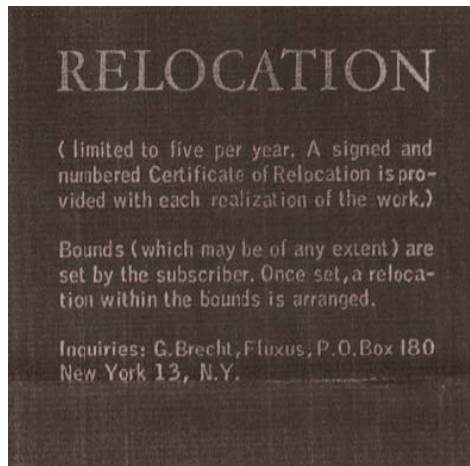
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Images Available for Reproduction

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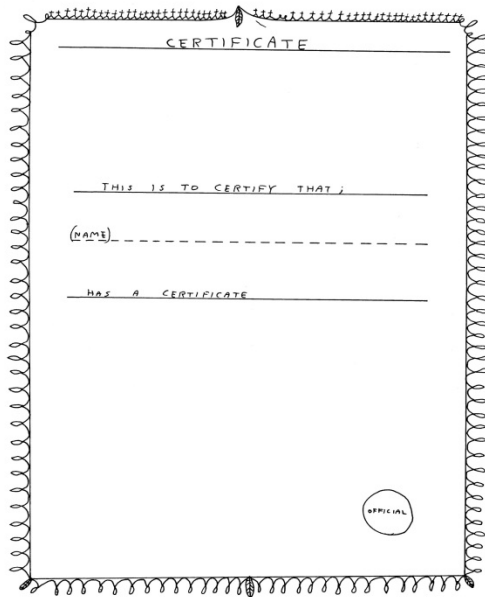
Ruben Aubrecht
Invoice No. 21 (Rechnung Nr. 21),
2011
Ink on paper, signed
5 x 1 5/8 inches deep. Courtesy of
the artist.



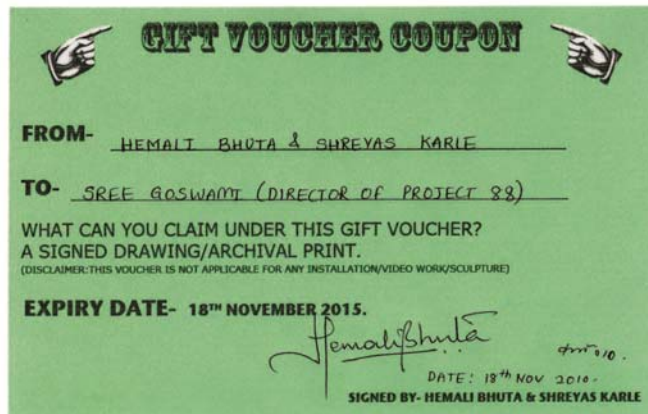
George Brecht
Relocation, ca. 1963-64
Printed Paper
3 3/8 x 3 5/8 inches deep.
Courtesy of Joanne and Jon
Hendricks, New York.



Daniel Spoerri
Certificate of Authenticity, Snare Picture, for So Easily Made
No.13 (Brevet de Garantie, Tableau-Piège, made under license
for Jack Youngerman), 1964
Printed ink and inscription on paper, signed
4 x 5 3/8 inches deep.
Gift of the Gilbert and Lila Silverman Collection, Detroit,
American Friends of the Israel Museum, courtesy The Israel
Museum, Jerusalem.



David Shrigley
Certificate, 1997–ongoing
Offset print on paper
11 3/4 x 8 1/4 inches deep.
Courtesy of Wolfgang Berkowski, Rome.



Hemali Bhuta and Shreyas Karle
GiftVoucher Coupon, 2010
Offset print and pen on paper, signed
4 x 6 inches deep.
Courtesy of Sree Goswami, Mumbai.