



NEW RELEASE

Rodney Graham

Lightboxes

Edited by Stiftung Frieder Burda

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Designed by Derek Barnett, Information Office, Vancouver
Hardcover with dust jacket

23 x 28 cm

130 pages

108 colorills. and 16 b/w-ills.

German / English

ISBN 978-3-86828-802-5

Euro 39,90

For the first time, this book presents all 36 photo light boxes from the work of the Canadian conceptual artist.

Hardly any other contemporary artist has devoted himself to searching for traces left behind by different ways of life in the 19th and 20th centuries as the Canadian Rodney Graham (b. 1949). Since the 1970s, he has been working on a rhizome-like, conceptual oeuvre that has never shied away from new jumps in time or genre. His work combines film, photography, installation, performance, painting, literature, and music. Graham, who, along with artists such as Jeff Wall or Stan Douglas, belongs to the »Vancouver School«, appropriates styles, trends, and discourses from the era of romanticism through to post-modernity, commenting or expanding on them or rethinking them with an understated irony. This book, designed in close co-operation with the artist, accompanies the exhibition at Museum Frieder Burda. It presents Graham's 36 photo light boxes from 2000 to the present, among them key works like the Newspaper Man. The central focus is on the manifold ways in which Graham has staged himself. He always gives the impression of a melancholy time traveler, a modern-day Buster Keaton, negotiating the trials and tribulations of modern culture in various guises and in doing so, slipping into the role of producer, observer or mediator.

»Besides his painting, sculptural work, films, and music, photography constitutes probably the most multifaceted part of Graham's oeuvre, and it can stand on its own. It is a visually opulent spectacle, invites viewers to discover and reflect, whereby the ironic self-portrayals — Graham always appears as the main actor in his works — lend the photographs an intriguing lightness.«

— from the introduction by Frieder Burda

www.museum-frieder-burda.de

Rodney Graham (* 1949 in Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada) graduated from the University of British Columbia, Burnaby, in 1971 and lives and works in Vancouver. He represented Canada at the 47th Venice Biennale, Italy (1997) and among awards he has received the Gershon Iskowitz Prize, Toronto, Canada (2004), the Kurt Schwitters-Preis, Niedersächsische Sparkassenstiftung, Germany (2006), and the Audain Prize for lifetime achievement in visual arts, British Columbia, Canada (2011). Rodney Graham was appointed as an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2016 for his contributions to Canadian contemporary art.

Exhibition

Lightboxes, Museum Frieder Burda, Baden-Baden, Germany
08.07. – 26.11. 2017

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Fon ++49 (0)6221/649 20-25, Fax ++49 (0)6221/64920-20
www.kehrerverlag.com www.artbooksheidelberg.com

Press images



1_Rodney Graham, Paradoxical Western Scene, 2006. Lightbox, 147,3 x 121,9 x 17,8 cm. Courtesy Hauser & Wirth and the artist
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2_Rodney Graham, Sunday Sun 1937, 2012. Lightbox, 87,9 x 87,9 x 17,8 cm. Igal Ahouvi Art Collection
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3_Rodney Graham, Canadian Humorist, 2012. Lightbox, 232,79 x 181,9 x 17,8 cm. Courtesy the artist and Esther Schipper, Berlin
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4_Rodney Graham, Newspaper Man, 2016. Lightbox, 182 x 136 x 18 cm. Museum Frieder Burda, Baden-Baden
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5_Rodney Graham, Media Studies, 77, 2016. Lightbox, 232,2 x 182 x 17,8 cm.
 Courtesy Hauser & Wirth and the artist
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6_Rodney Graham, Antiquarian Sleeping in his Shop, 2017. 3 Lightboxes, 275,9 x 555,7 x 17,8 cm. Museum Frieder Burda, Baden-Baden
 © Rodney Graham, 2017



7_Rodney Graham, Lighthouse Keeper with Lighthouse Model, 1955, 2010.
 Lightbox, 286,1 x 182,25 x 17,8 cm. Privatsammlung
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8_Rodney Graham, Dinner Break (Salisbury Steak), 2017. Lightbox, 113,3 x 87,9 x 17,8 cm. Courtesy Hauser & Wirth and the artist
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