



JIŘÍ VALOCH
WORKS



JIŘÍ VALOCH (*1946, Brno, Czechoslovakia)

Is a poet and creator of visual and conceptual poetry, photographic poetry and photographic concepts, minimalist happenings and interventions in the environment, artist's books, and text installations. Since 1966 he has also worked as an art critic and curator. In 1974 he published his first monography, *Poesia Visiva* (Beniamino Carruci publisher, Roma). He studied German and Czech literature and Aesthetics at the College of Philosophy of Masaryk University in Brno (1965 – 1970) From 1972 to 2001 he worked as a curator at the House of art in Brno, preparing exhibitions of Czech artists (V. Boštík, Milan Knížák, Vladimír Boudník, J. Kolář, B. Kolářová, A. Šimotová, L. Novák), after 1990 also international artists (R. P. Lahnse, G. Graser, R. Mielsam, R. Barry). Starting in the early 1970s he was involved in organising unofficial exhibitions across Czechoslovakia.

In 2015 he donated his collection and archive to the Moravian Gallery in Brno. Last two year he has been leaving in small village Ludíkov in the Moravian Carst.

σπρωμ λευϊπρο (ordinary words)

Exhibition: Gandy gallery, Bratislava

26.05 - 28.07.2022

Curator: Jana Pisaříková

In the Slovak as well as the Czech context, Jiří Valoch is mainly discussed concerning his curatorial and publishing activities. Abroad, he is perceived primarily as an author of visual poetry and conceptual works. The exhibition, which is part of the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Gandy gallery, will introduce Jiří Valoch through key segments of his work. It developed from the mid-1960s onwards not in isolation beyond the borders of totalitarian Czechoslovakia, but instead in the context of following international developments. Jiří Valoch maintained extensive postal contacts with artists from all over the world. His work thus transcended the geopolitical borders of the time. He drew on the influences of Italian visual poetry and espoused the canon of Western conceptual thought. He created his authentic handwriting, in which, with the help of typescript or a combination of written and visual communication, there is a minimalist fusion of two seemingly incompatible elements: lyrical feeling and rational concept.

The meaning of its title was extremely important for the creation of this exhibition: ordinary words. It is a reflection on what we can and cannot accept as common, ordinary or normal, and not only in the context of working with the structure of language, with which Valoch's work is primarily connected. It points to the importance of social openness in the ability to incorporate otherness into one's life. As an artist, curator and collector, Jiří Valoch has always pushed the boundaries of the norms of art. His work and his curatorial activities, which in the last 10 years are finally beginning to form a respected canon of Czech-Slovak art, were not considered by many to be art at all at the time of their inception. The openness to otherness is also important here in terms of the fact that Jiří Valoch is not only an artist with whom I collaborate as a curator, but also a man who, despite the conventions, became part of my family after his illness made it impossible for him to live independently. For Jiří Valoch, the Bratislava exhibition at Gandy Gallery is also the first comprehensive show of his work in Slovakia for a long time, and we hope it will be an opportunity to meet him personally and especially through his work.

Jana Pisaříková

curator and theoretician of Czech and Moravian art at the Moravian Gallery in Brno.

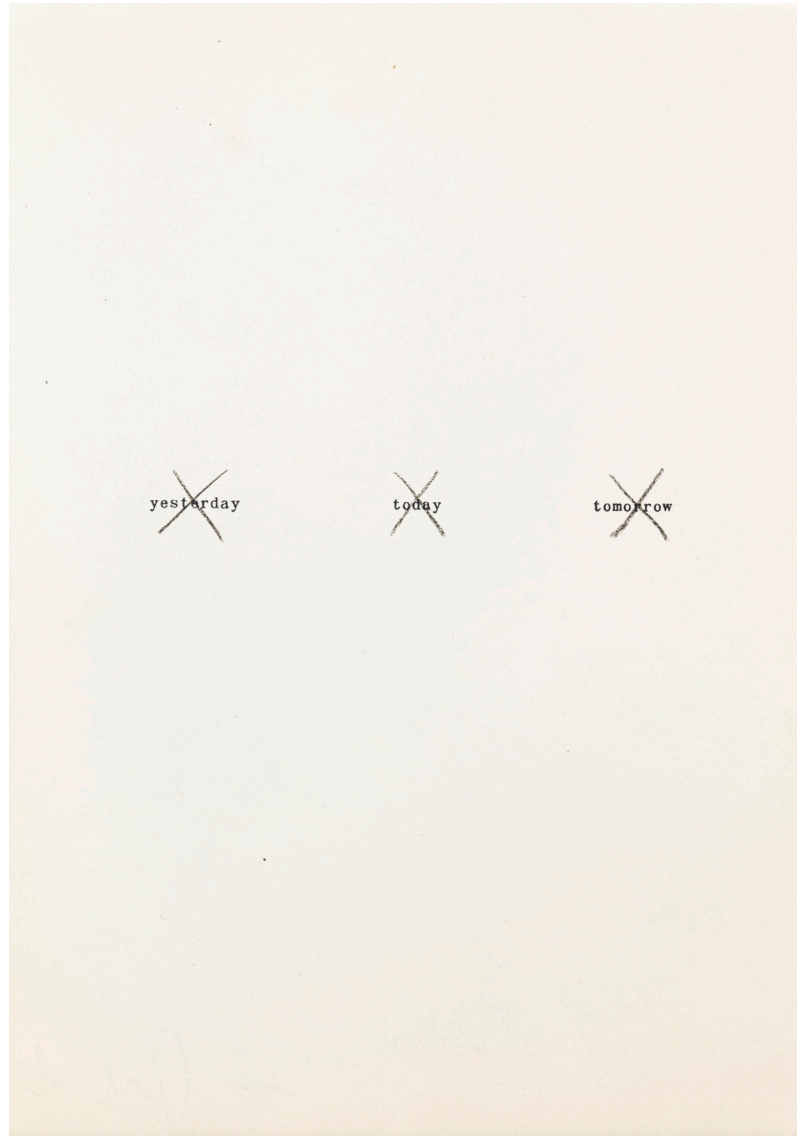


JIŘÍ VALOCH

Without words, 1986

typewritten text on handmade paper, 29 x 21 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery

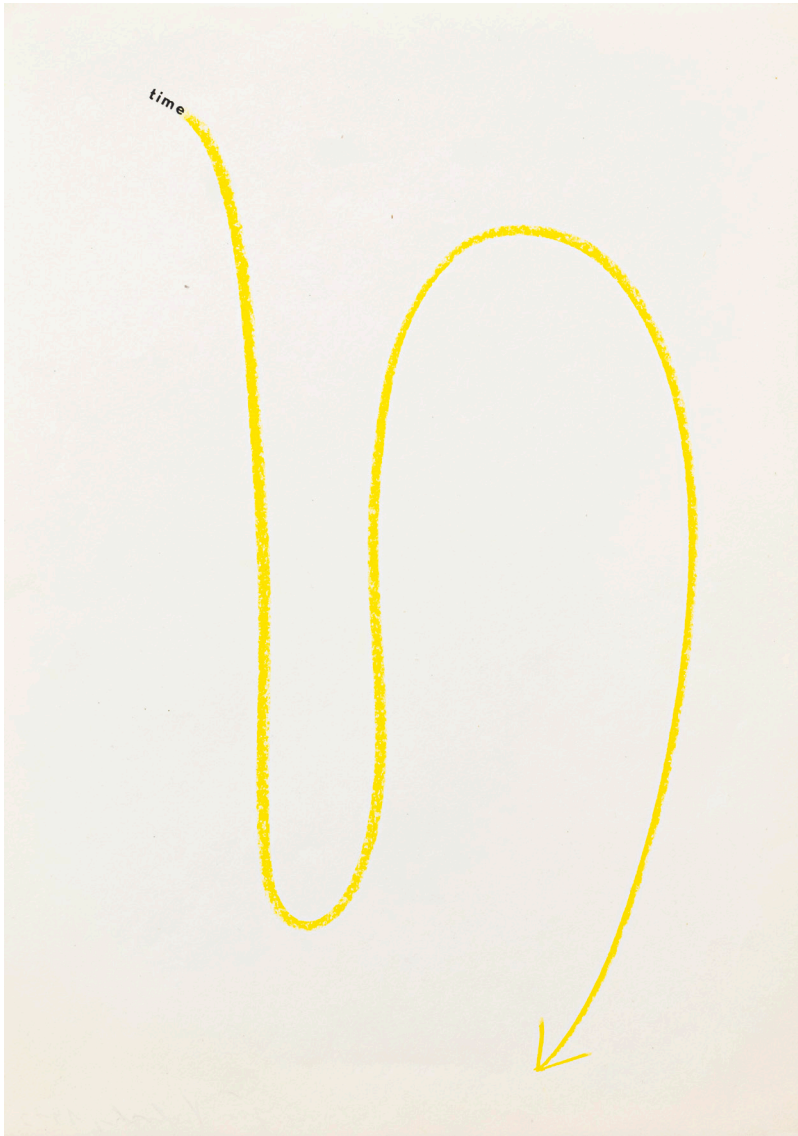


JIŘÍ VALOCH

Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow, undated

xerox, pencil on paper, undated, 29 x 21 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery

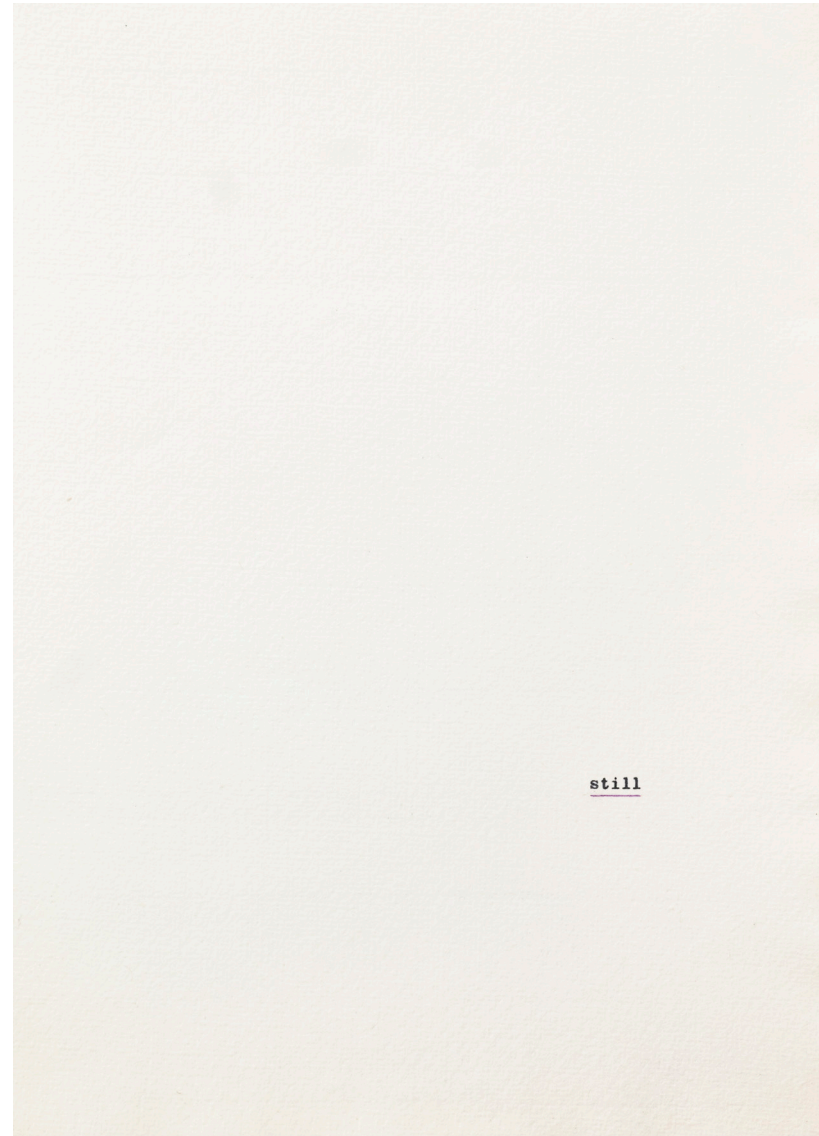


JIRÍ VALOCH

Time, undated

propisot and pencil on paper, 29 x 21 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery



JIRÍ VALOCH

Still, 1990

typewritten text on handmade paper, 29 x 21 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery



JIŘÍ VALOCH

Observing the Landscape I., 1974

6x, b-w photography, 24,4 x 24,4 cm each, exhibiting copies, 1974/2022, signed
published in Jiří Valoch's first monography, poesia visiva, Roma, 1974

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery



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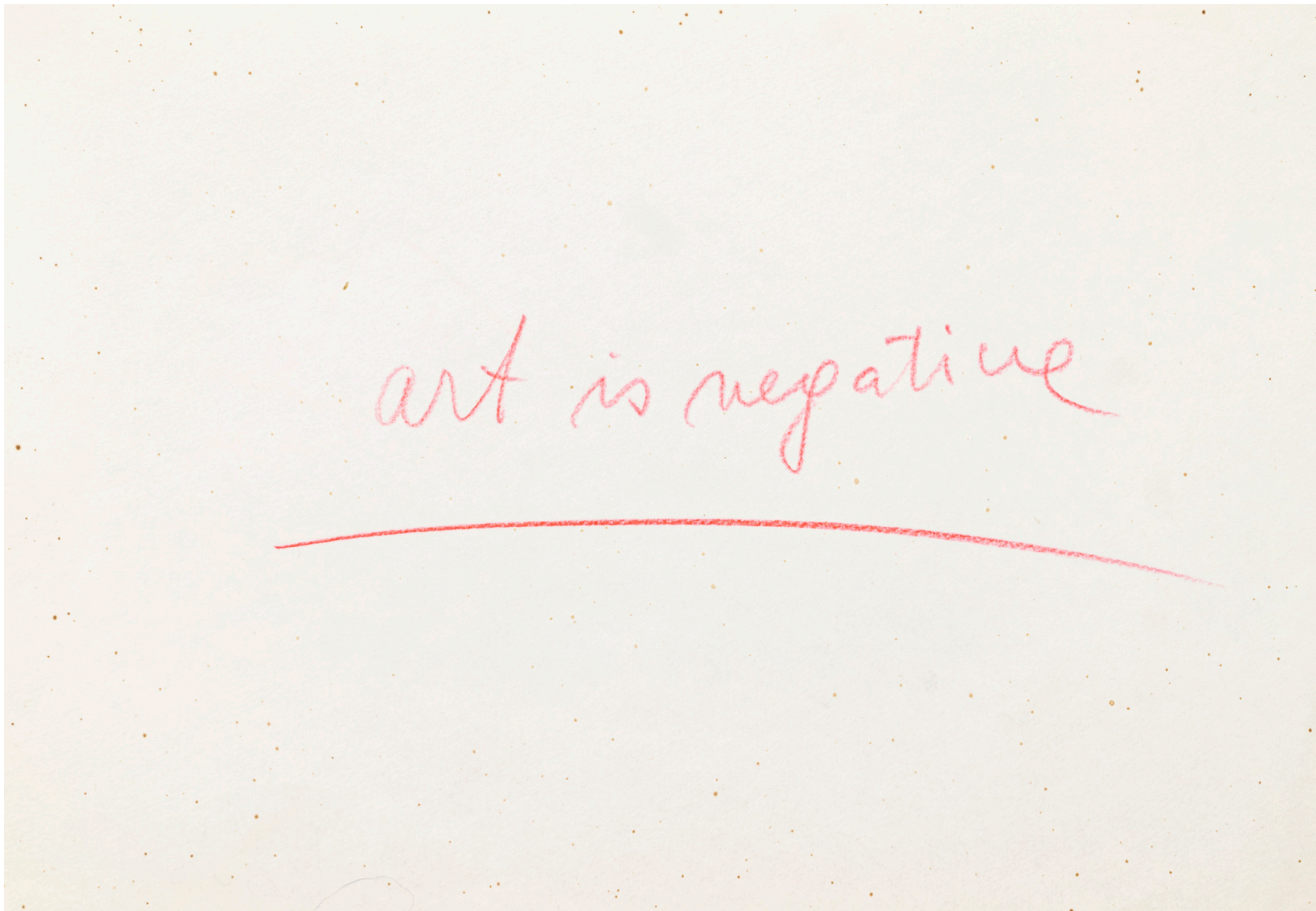
JIŘÍ VALOCH

Observing the Landscape II., 1974,

5x, b-w photography, 24,4 x 24,4 cm each, exhibiting copies, 1974/2022, signed

published in Jiří Valoch's first monography, poesia visiva, Roma, 1974

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery



JIŘÍ VALOCH

Art is negative, undated

pencil on paper, 21 x 29,5 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery

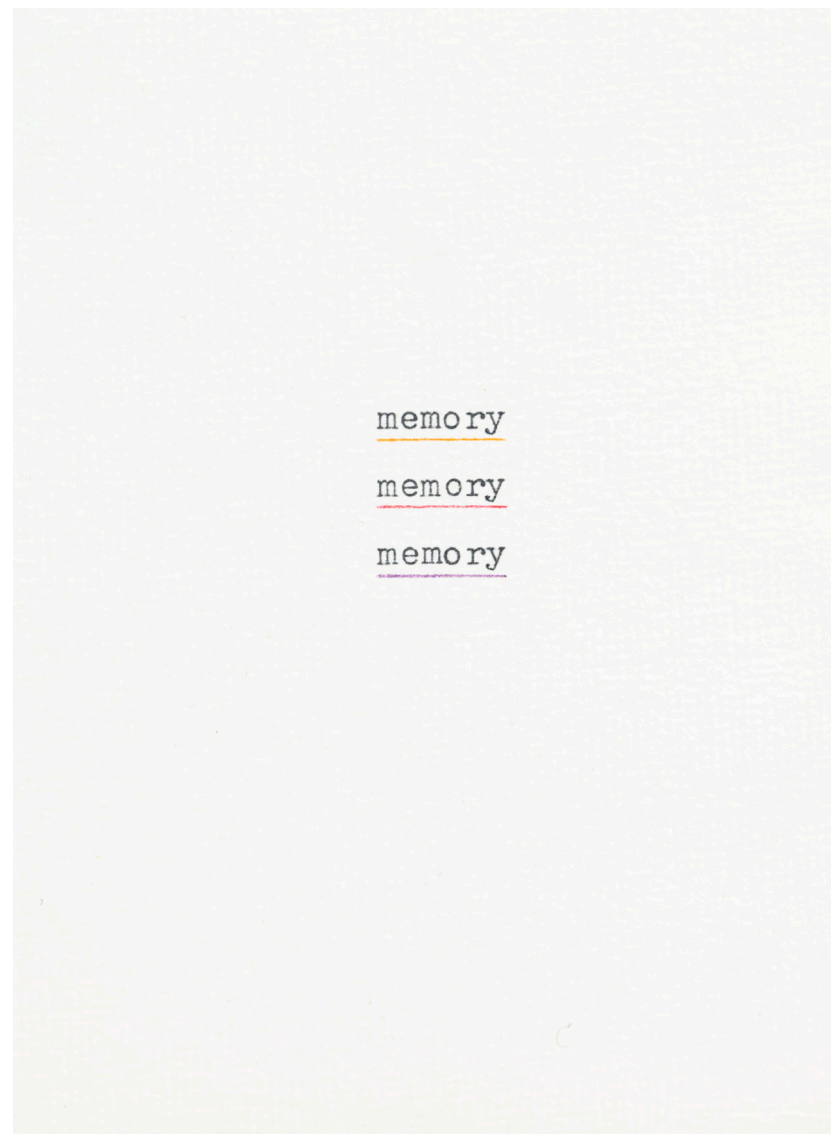


JIŘÍ VALOCH

Love, (from stones series), 1972 – 1974

b-w vintage photography, 17 x 11,5 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery

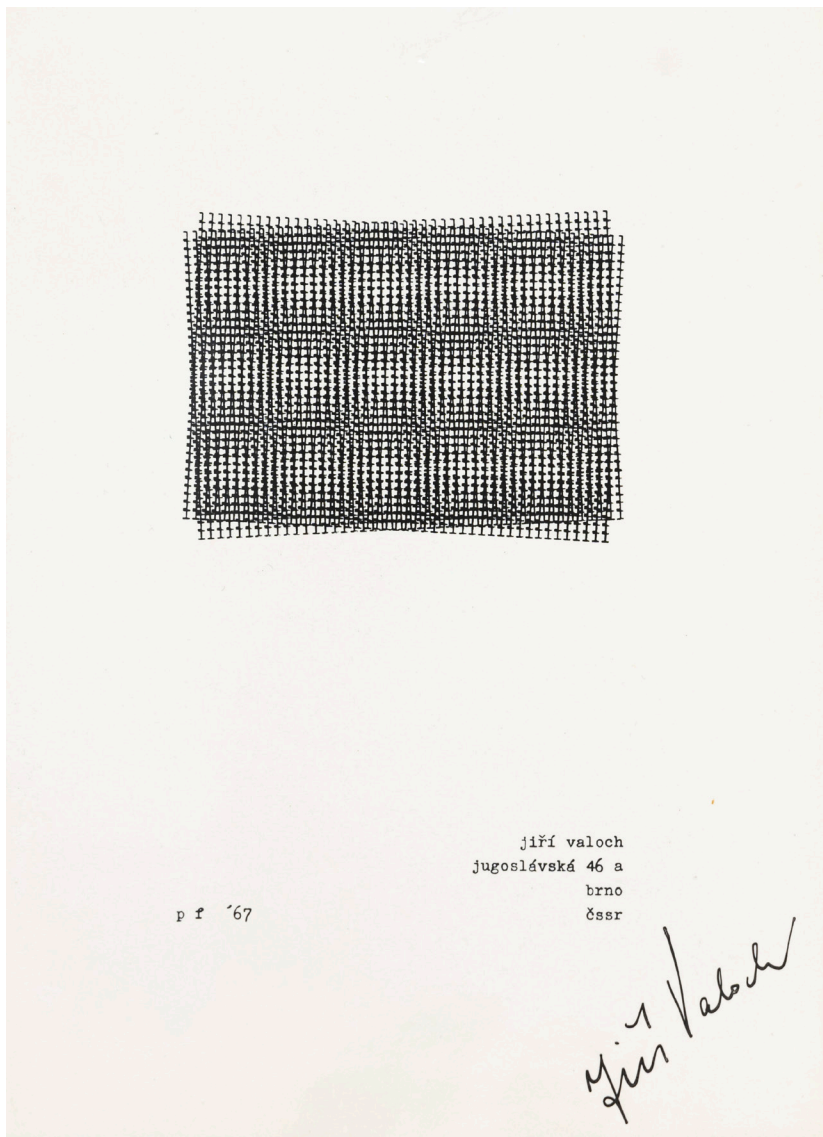


JIŘÍ VALOCH

Memory, 1986,

typewritten text and pencil on handmade paper, 14,5 x 10,5 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery

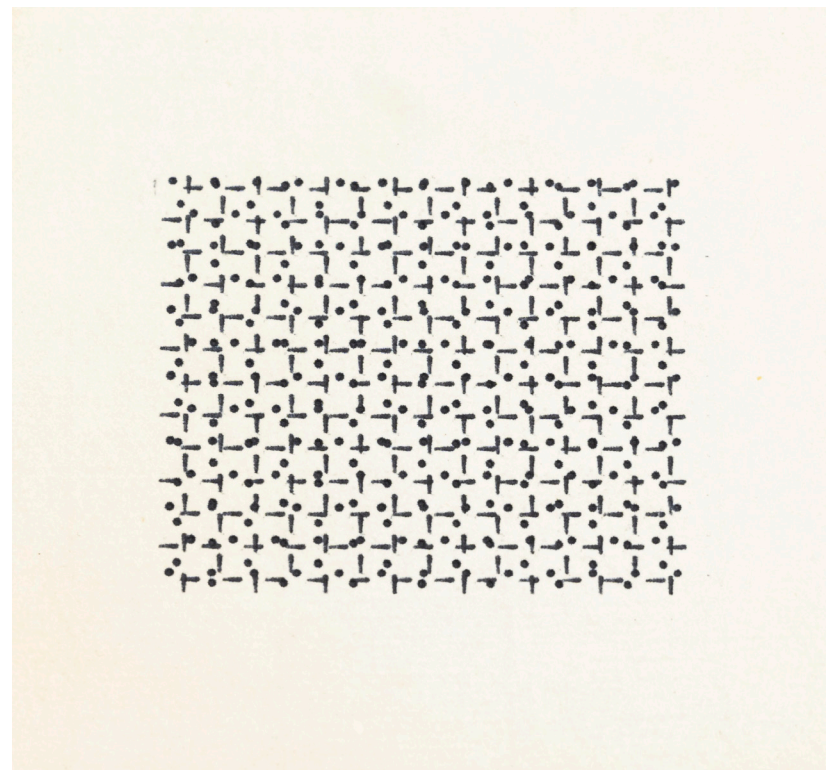


JIŘÍ VALOCH

Optical poem, 1966

vintage b-w photography, 18x13 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery

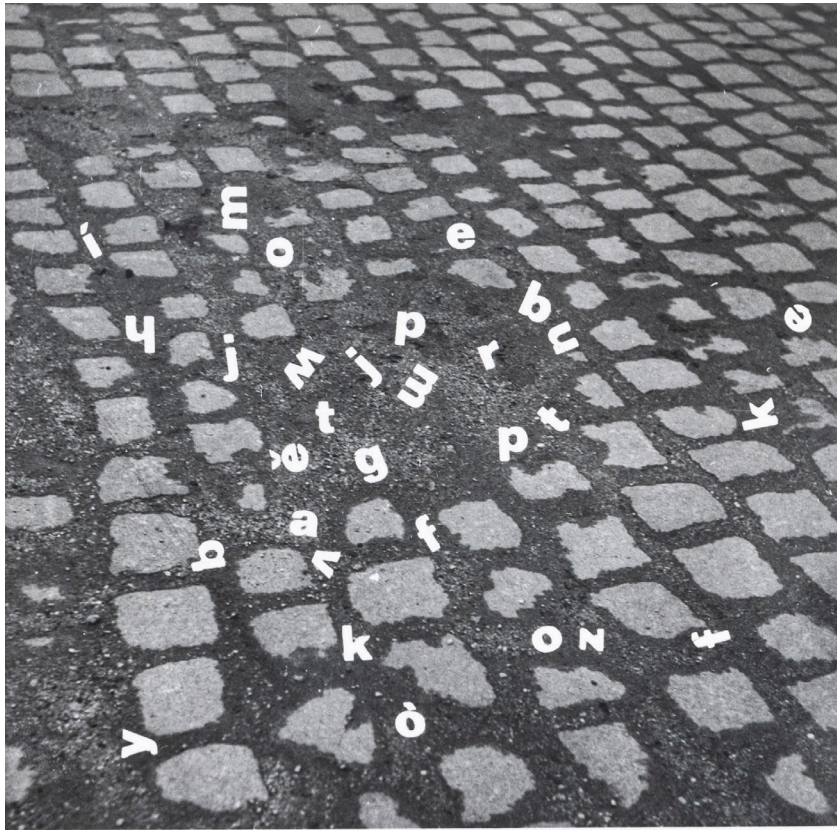


JIŘÍ VALOCH

Structure 1, 1969

ink on paper, 10,5 x 10,5 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery



JIŘÍ VALOCH

Orientated text, 1969

b-w vintage photography, 13x19 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery



JIŘÍ VALOCH

Dream, 1974,

b-w vintage photography (series of 3), 18x13 cm, unsigned,

published in Jiří Valoch's first monography, poesia visiva, Roma, 1974

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery

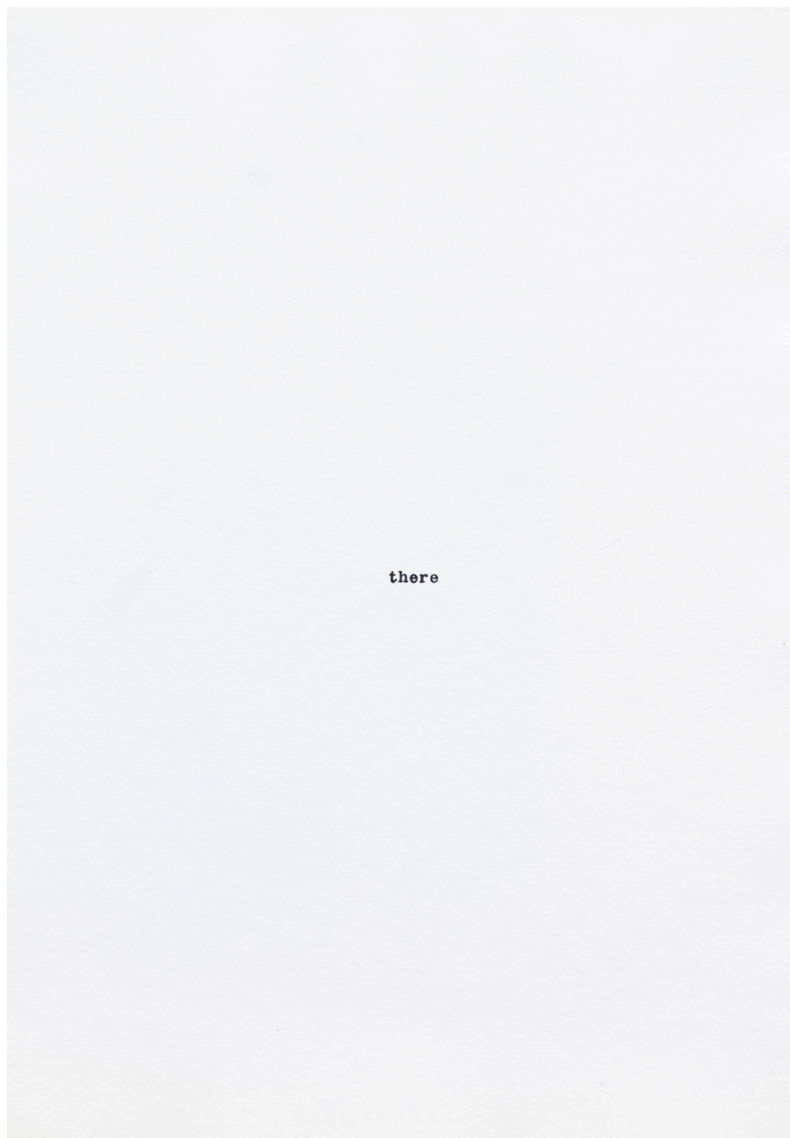
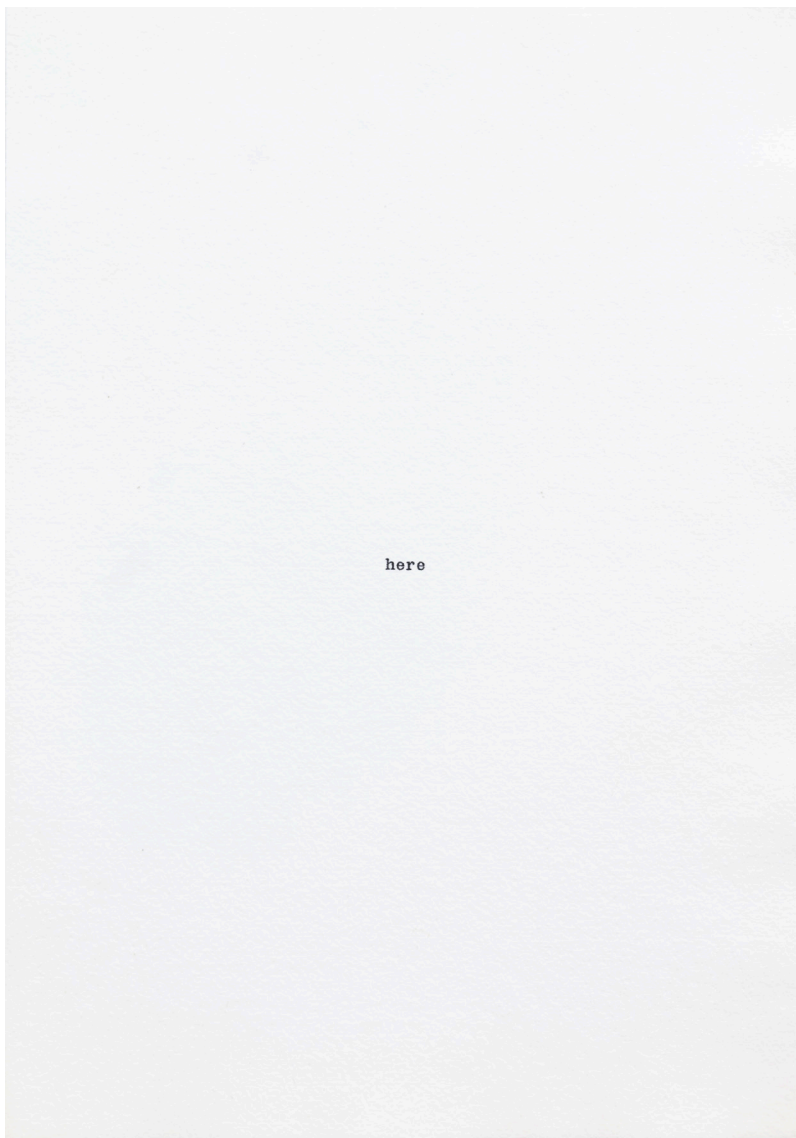


JIŘÍ VALOCH

Oblak, Pamět, Ticho, 1973

3x b-w photography, 18 x 17,9 each, (exhibiting copies) 1973/2022, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery



JIRÍ VALOCH

Here/There, 1999

typewritten text on handmade paper, 2x 29 x 21 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery

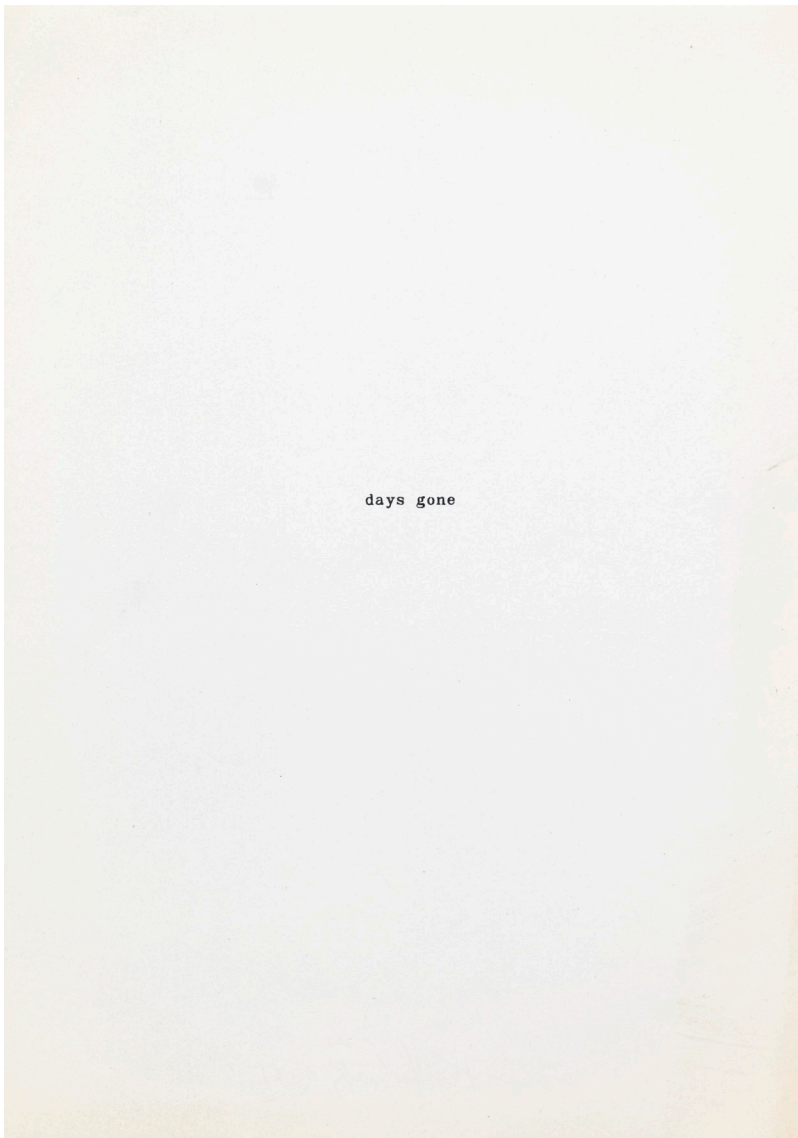


JIŘÍ VALOCH

Horizontálně / vertikálně, 1971

2 x b-w vintage photography, 23,8 x 18,1 cm each, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery



JIŘÍ VALOCH

Days gone, 1972

typewritten text on paper, 29,5 x 21 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery

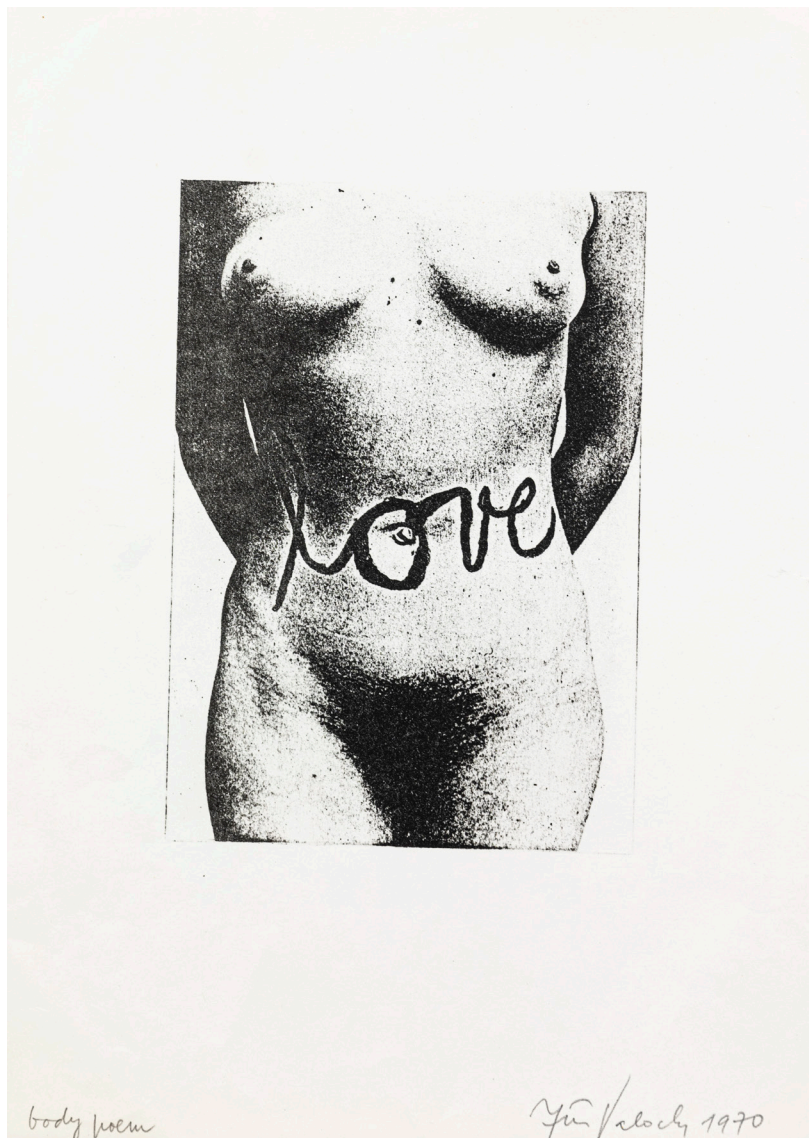


JIŘÍ VALOCH

Stars, 1992

typewritten text on handmade paper, 29 x 21 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery

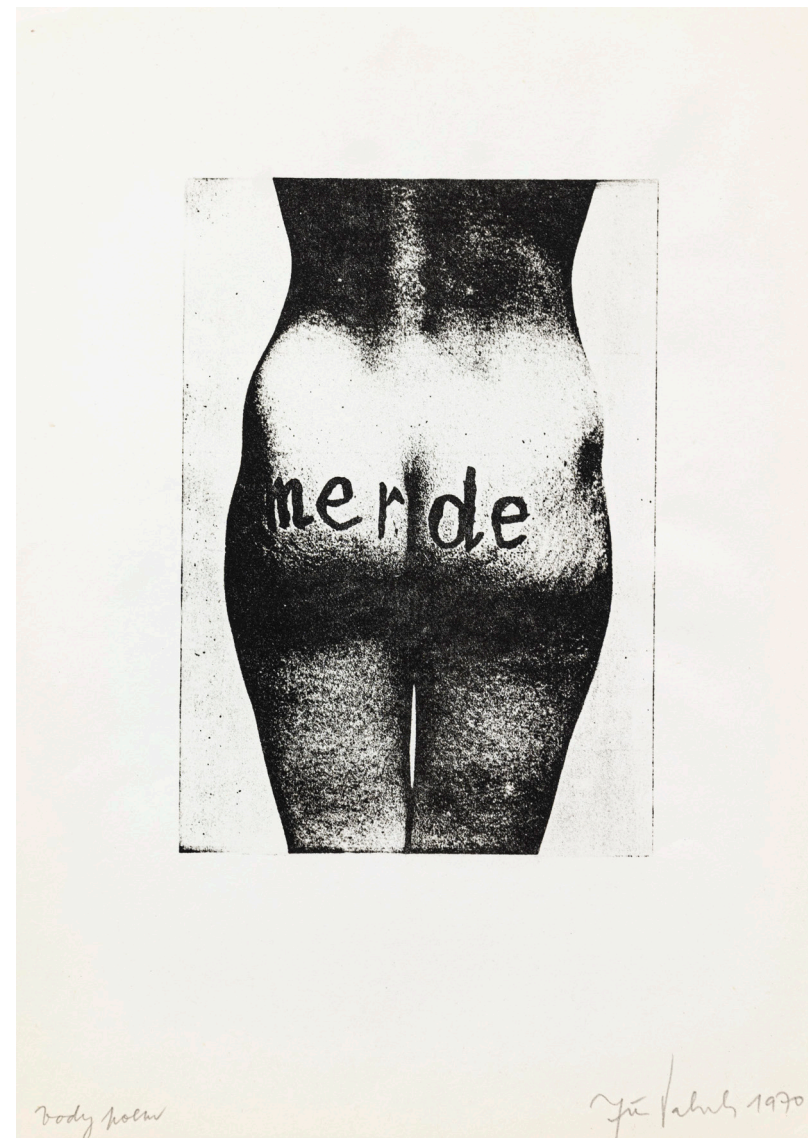


JIŘÍ VALOCH

Body poem (Love), 1970

xerox, 29 x 21 cm, 29,5 x 21 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery



JIŘÍ VALOCH

Body poem (Merde), 1970

xerox, 29 x 21 cm, 29,5 x 21 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery

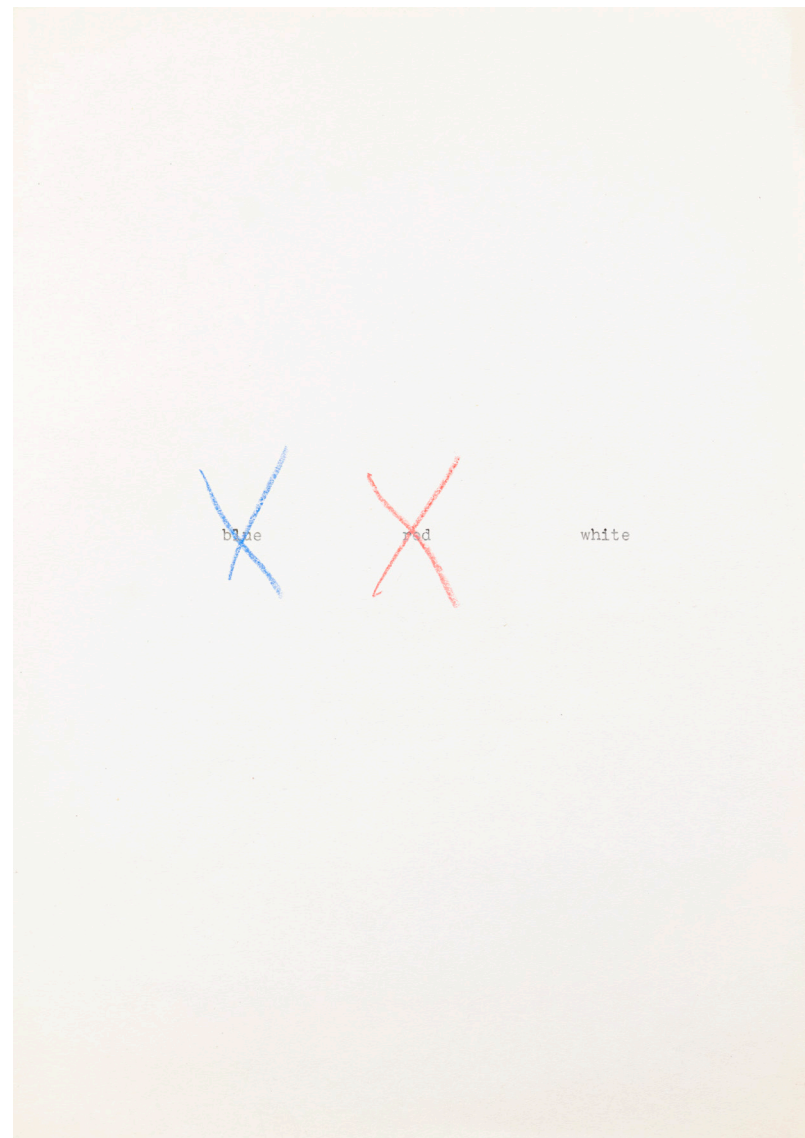


JIŘÍ VALOCH

Silence, 1975

typewritten text on paper, 29,5 x 21 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery



JIŘÍ VALOCH

Colours 16 (blue, red, white), 1973

typewritten text and pencil on paper, 29,5 x 21 cm, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery



JÍŘÍ VALOCH

Haiku I., 1974,

9 x b-w vintage photographs, 23,6 x 23,5 cm each, unsigned,
published in Jiří Valoch's first monography, poesia visiva, Roma, 1974

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery

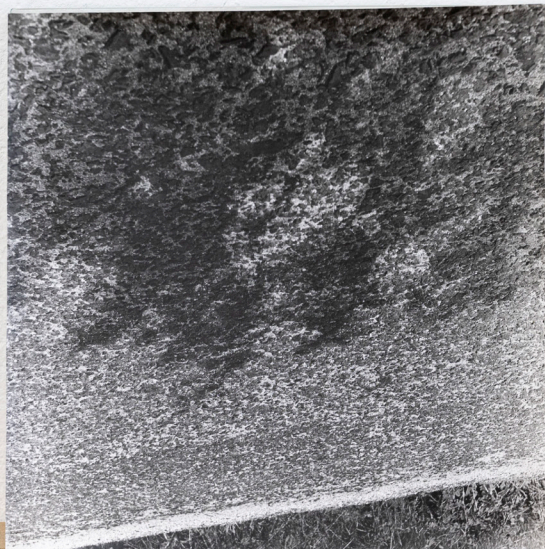


JIŘÍ VALOCH

Haiku II., 1974,

9 x b-w vintage photographs, 23,6 x 23,5 cm each, unsigned,
published in Jiří Valoch's first monography, poesia visiva, Roma, 1974

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery



JIŘÍ VALOCH

Haiku III., 1974,

9 x b-w vintage photographs, 23,6 x 23,5 cm each, unsigned,
published in Jiří Valoch's first monography, poesia visiva, Roma, 1974

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery



JIŘÍ VALOCH

Jiří Valoch is pronouncing his poem, 2015/1974

6x b-w photography, multiple, 20,8 x 14,5 cm each, signed

Courtesy of the artist and Gandy gallery