

ROB TUFNELL

A^T

**47 BEDFORD STREET
LONDON WC2E 9HA**

**DAVID ROBILLIARD
DRAWINGS
20 MAY – 17 JUNE 2023**

Rob Tufnell presents a group of previously unexhibited works on paper by David Robilliard (1952 - 1988). The selection comes from a small body of works on paper left to fellow artist Andrew Heard and celebrates the publication of a new book 'David Robilliard, Drawings 1976 – 1987'.

Inspired by the writer Christopher Isherwood (amongst others) Robilliard recorded what was around him. He wrote and drew what he saw and heard in newspapers and books and bars and cafés. He always carried a notebook and drew on loose sheets of paper signing everything with his initials and the year. His subjects were eclectic: from domestic pets to exotic beasts and pop stars and comic book characters to Prime Ministers and Presidents. These works were accompanied by a stream of colourful, capitalised statements and double entendres.

David Robilliard produced a modest but important body of work before his premature death from an AIDS related illness in 1988. He published two volumes of poetry (six more were compiled posthumously). Of the 61 paintings on canvas he is known to have produced, examples are held in significant public collections including the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; the Tate, London and the Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven. Exhibitions of his paintings have been held at the ICA, London (2014), Cornerhouse, Manchester (1998), the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (1993), the Royal Festival Hall, London (1992), and at the Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven (1987). His work was also included in the exhibition 'Keywords: Art, Culture and Society in 1980s Britain' at Tate Liverpool (2014); 'In & Out of Amsterdam' at the Museum of Modern Art, New York (2009) and the British Art Show (1990) which toured between Leeds City Art Gallery, the McLellan Galleries, Glasgow and the Hayward Gallery, London.

'David Robilliard, Drawings 1976 – 1987' reproduces 92 of his works on paper. It was designed by A Practice for Everyday Life and was made possible by James Birch, one of Robilliard's original gallerists, and Chris Hall, custodian of the estate of Andrew Heard. The book is dedicated by Chris Hall to Catherine and John Hollens.

Exhibition open Saturdays 12.00 – 17.00 and by appointment
For further information please contact mail@robtufnell.com