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*For Immediate Release*

**FISCHLI/WEISS**  
**BOOKS, EDITIONS AND THE LIKE**  
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Since the beginning of their collaboration, Swiss artists Peter Fischli and David Weiss have given special consideration to the many artist books, special editions and multiples that have accompanied their projects of the past thirty years. This rich and ever-expanding archive of printed matter, including proofs and storyboards for their publications and films, at once illustrates and constitutes a part of the artists' oeuvre; through it one can trace the path of their creative process from concept to prototype and back again.

For their seminal 1982 publication, *Suddenly this Overview*, represented here by the loose sheets of an early catalogue proof, Fischli/Weiss mounted and titled by hand photographic plates of the 180 clay sculptures that comprise the series. When the artists later required these images for other publications, they simply tore them from the original mockup, leaving blank pages as evidence of their unpretentiously cannibalistic practice. Despite advances in digital technology, Fischli/Weiss' design process has remained remarkably true to its do-it-yourself origins. Their recent catalogue, *Equilibres*, was also composed on loose sheets of paper, and while the artists now work with laser-printed color photographs, they continue to annotate their preliminary designs by hand.

Taken as a whole, the material selected for *Books, Editions and the Like* reveals a process of composition at work in the most menial aspects of Fischli/Weiss' practice. In planning their projection-based project *Questions*, for instance, the artists developed a score-like notation for sequencing constellations of such seemingly unrelated questions as "WHY DOES THE EARTH TURN ON ITS AXIS EVERY DAY?," "CAN ONE THINK OF EVERYTHING?," and "AM I THE SLEEPING-BAG OF MY SOUL?" In turn, Fischli/Weiss' ongoing examination of questions and of the practice of questioning resulted in the release of one of book-publisher Walther König's most popular editions, the pocket-sized book *Will Happiness Find Me?*, which presents the artists' selection of unanswerable questions with a characteristic mix of highbrow irony and lo-fi design.

On view at the Swiss Institute, this comprehensive collection of printed matter by Fischli/Weiss is augmented by a selection of their exhibition posters and video works, including *The Way Things Go*, *Kitty* and *Dogs*. *Books, Editions and the Like* is timed to coincide with the artists' upcoming retrospective at Kunsthau Zurich and their solo exhibition at Matthew Marks Gallery, New York.

The Swiss Institute is pleased to present this exhibition in cooperation with Sitterwerk, St. Gallen.

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