

*Vito Acconci: A Graphic Retrospective, 1971-1992*  
Statement of Intent

This exhibition represents a current and complete survey of the graphic oeuvre of Vito Acconci from 1971 to 1992. Chronologically, it presents Acconci's diverse artistic concerns.

Acconci evolved from poet to performance artist to sculptor. His prints have also paralleled this transition and development. While his early works questioned the conventions of printmaking, his later works challenged the very nature of the medium itself. In *Trademarks* (1970) Acconci inked up marks on his body to make a print, whereas in *Wings for Wall and Person* (1979-1981) the viewer participates by standing between an expanse of twelve etchings, linking together a pair of antique airplane wings.

Acconci's performance and body art from the early 1970's is depicted in the lithographs *Kiss Off*, *Trade Marks*, and *Touchstone (for J.1.)*, which were printed at Nova Scotia Press. His interest in architecture is explored in the prints *Stone for a Wall*; *Building Blocks for a Doorway*; *Big Brick*, and *Fold Out House*. The artist's more recent concerns for social spaces and public sculpture are examined in *3 Flags for 1 Space and 6 Regions*; *Wavering Flag*; and *the Name Calling Chair*.

The twenty-four works that comprise this exhibition are innovative both conceptually and in their dynamic use of materials.

*Deborah Ripley and Arthur Sebway*  
Exhibition organizers