



michèle didier

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Annette Messenger / Maurizio Nannucci**

Maurizio Nannucci's and Annette Messenger's exhibitions will open  
on Thursday November 15, 2012 from 6 pm to 9 pm  
in presence of both artists.

The exhibitions will take place from November 15, 2012 until January 5, 2013.

mfc-michèle didier

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## **Annette Messenger / Maurizio Nannucci**

*whichever word*, a new neon text by Maurizio Nannucci, produced and published by mfc-michèle didier in 2012, will be presented jointly with *Ma collection de proverbes* by Annette Messenger. Indeed, the publisher continues the great project of publishing the famous collection-albums made by the artist between 1972 and 1974.

Both works show a common interest for words and colors. *whichever word* is published in blue, yellow and red – the three primary colors that have to be mixed to render all the wide range of natural colors. The color is here more important than the word – «whichever word». With *whichever word* comes an exhaustive anthology of all the neon writings the artist has realized since 1967. *Ma collection de proverbes* also shows colorful words. They are embroidered on pieces of fabric and have been rigorously selected by Annette Messenger because of their «misogynistic» character; they are proverbs that remind us of the violence a text can sometimes express.

This double exhibition of Annette Messenger and Maurizio Nannucci will take place at mfc-michèle didier gallery from Thursday November 15, 2012 until Saturday January 5, 2013. The opening will be held on Thursday November 15, 2012 from 6 pm to 9 pm, in presence of both artists.

# Annette Messenger

## *Ma collection de proverbes*

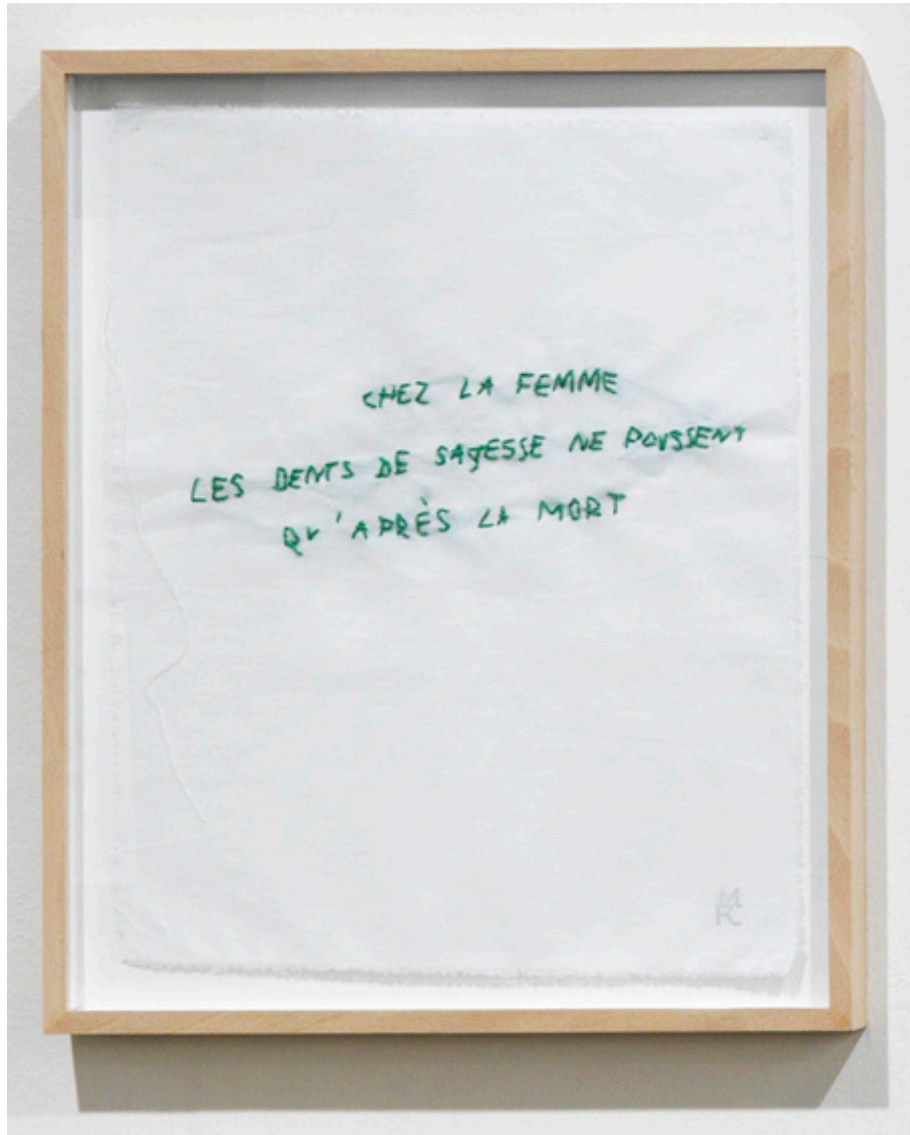
Annette Messenger is an artist. She is also a woman. Between 1972 and 1974, only 4 years after 1968, she produces almost sixty collection-albums made from an accumulation of texts, photographs, notes and miscellaneous items, cautiously collected and sorted. The artist plays here the role of a housewife, a woman she is clearly not. Her (completely fictitious) interest for knitting, mushroom picking or even cooking, allow her to reveal the ironic fantasy life of a young woman embodying the archetype of the 60's housewife. Annette Messenger assembles common, everyday items to create a work that is subtly both poetic and feminist.

*Ma collection de proverbes* is one of these collections that Annette Messenger has compiled over a long period of time and that consists of a series of "misogynistic" proverbs. The artist has embroidered them on pieces of white fabric, revealing them in an incisive and ironic perspective. mfc-michèle didier gathers the proverbs for the very first time.

Today true pieces of history, the collection-albums appear surprisingly strikingly contemporary, considering the reactions they are still able to generate.



Annette Messenger  
*Ma collection de proverbes*



Annette Messenger

*Ma collection de proverbes*

Set consisting of 15 pieces of white cotton fabric

Each set contains the same 13 proverbs

and 2 unique proverbs in each set

28 x 35 cm each

Limited edition of 24 numbered and signed and 6 artist's proofs

1974 - 2012

Produced and published in 2012 by mfc-michèle didier

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# **Maurizio Nannucci**

## ***whichever word***

Maurizio Nannucci is born in Florence in 1939. He lives and works in his hometown and also in the South of Germany. Internationally known artist, he has been a featured artist at the Venice Biennale several times and has participated in Documenta, Kassel, and the São Paulo, Sydney, Istanbul, and Valencia biennials. His works have been shown in over 300 exhibitions in museums and galleries.

Maurizio Nannucci is considered one of the most inventive experimental artists from the last decades. Historically, he is to be linked to the conceptual art of the late sixties. He questions, from his very first works, the interactions between language, writing and images and he puts the words under the spotlights. These areas of interest appear at the basis of each new production. However, the artist uses a variety of media: photographs, videos, artist's books, and sound installations. "Exploration" is his motto – or maybe it's "color"?

mfc-michèle didier publishes a new work by the artist, a set consisting of the neon text «whichever word», accompanied with an exhaustive anthology of all the neon writings the artist has imagined since 1967. Up to this day, this anthology contains 168 sentences.

Once again, the use of the neon's specific luminous intensity emphasizes the color's dominant role in the artist's work. "It (color) becomes an integral element in the writing, which is not only a collection of words but the material through which I express myself..." he says.

Maurizio Nannucci's neon text gives this way the opportunity to experience, for the short time of a reading, the short time of an exhibition, a spatial synesthesia.

whichever word is produced in 3 colors: blue, yellow and red

The work is limited to 21 numbered and signed copies, which is 7 copies of each color

The neon text measures 75 x 8 x 2,5 cm.

The neon and the anthology are placed in a slipcase.

Produced and published in 2012 by mfc-michèle didier

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