

# WOODFINCH

In association with the National Print Gallery

## PRESS RELEASE

### DAVID FERRY – BELLIGERENT ROCK INTRUSIONS

Recent artists' books and prints from *Aspects of Our National Heritage*

Wednesday 12 May – Friday 4 June 2010

Private View: Tuesday 11 May, 6 - 9pm

RSVP: [anna@simonfinch.com](mailto:anna@simonfinch.com)

WOODFINCH / Simon Finch Rare Books in association with The National Print Gallery are glad to present the forthcoming exhibition **David Ferry – Belligerent Rock Intrusions**.

The exhibition consists of a series of books of collages and a suite of prints based on the book *Belligerent Rock Intrusions* by David Ferry, an artist who has successfully bridged the worlds of fine art and rare books by making subtle photo-collaged additions to existing photographic publications. Each book is an adjusted copy of a pictorial guide of the British Isles from the innocent post war years of the 1950's and 1960's, which he has deftly subverted using donor material from the same period. He uses material from building brochures, other contemporary sources and in the case of *Belligerent Rock Intrusions*, recreational climbing literature to deconstruct the notion of British national identity and heritage.

Brandon Taylor, author of *Collage, The Making of Modern Art* (Thames & Hudson) says of Ferry's work: 'The tourist literature genre that is celebrated and defiled in David Ferry's photomontages is thus at one and the same time an experience of travel, or imagined travel, and photography; a combination that enshrines the contradictions of an accelerating modernity sharply colliding with a sense of "England" that veers between pure nostalgia on the one hand and an earnest striving for good design on the other'.

David Ferry's books and prints create a rare and very individual footprint in the context of contemporary graphic imagery and bear witness to the influences of John Heartfield and the photomontage tradition. For Ferry the desire is not to produce images for use as political weapons, but as a more gentle and affectionate commentary on life in Britain, including some of its quaint secrets. Ferry's aesthetic corruption performs interventions that juxtapose the lyrical with the unexpected to create a parallel world where thatched cottages and prefabricated industrial laminates make strange but endearing bedfellows.

Ferry's work is in many international and museum collections, including, The Ashmolean Oxford, The Art Institute of Chicago, Museum of Modern Art, New York, The Victoria & Albert Museum, M & C Saatchi, London, The Strang Collection, University College London & the University of Vermont. He was a recent recipient of a Pollock / Krasner major award .

The exhibition will be held in the new Mayfair gallery of Simon Finch Rare Books (since 1983) and WOODFINCH. The gallery is a step forward from the groundbreaking Notting Hill shop in Ledbury Road. The partners - Oliver Wood and Simon Finch - have transformed the four upper floors of a corner property (Haunch of Venison Yard and Brook Street) into a vibrant gallery and an elegant rare bookshop. The stock ranges from Shakespeare folios to a large variety of unique 20<sup>th</sup> century photography. The collection also encompasses a valuable selection of historical erotica from the 17<sup>th</sup> century through De Sade to Bellmer and resonant artists' artifacts including a pair of David Hockney's spectacles and the brushes Francis Bacon used to paint his studies of Lucien Freud.

For further information or high resolution images please contact Anna Soranzo

E: [anna@simonfinch.com](mailto:anna@simonfinch.com)

T: +44 (0)20 7499 0974

---

WOODFINCH / Simon Finch Rare Books,  
Floors 1-4, 26 Brook Street,  
London W1K 5DQ (entrance in Haunch of Venison Yard)  
T: +44 (0)20 7499 0974  
E: [rarebooks@simonfinch.com](mailto:rarebooks@simonfinch.com)  
W: [www.simonfinch.com](http://www.simonfinch.com)  
W: [www.woodfin.ch](http://www.woodfin.ch)

Gallery Opening hours:  
Mon – Fri 10am-6pm  
During the exhibition only Sat 12pm- 4pm  
Sun closed

The National Print Gallery  
T: +44 (0)20 7323 1109  
E: [info@nationalprintgallery.com](mailto:info@nationalprintgallery.com)  
W: [www.nationalprintgallery.com](http://www.nationalprintgallery.com)