

JAMES LEE BYARS



Untitled (date unknown)

Letter from James Lee Byars to Jim Butler

12 x 89 in. (30 x 226 cm)

Gold pencil on paper, one side painted red

m.: J. What perf. vis. How gr. that you love exc. I'm 5lbs. merrier – cherries Flambé and "Dom" and just to see their faces at somet. good wanted Lov'd showing you xo (such fav. Mems.) Love forev. By Name etc.? Call me up? Happy Granddaddy?



Untitled (date unknown)

Letter from James Lee Byars to Jim Butler

9 x 219 in. (23 x 556 cm)

White pencil on white Dissolvo water soluble paper, also known as 'spy paper'

m.: Well buts 2 wks keep it funny? Remem. the tongues thank you for the far ot. Summer all the peop. in NY are great come see my show this is dissolvo the snake. Love, B.



Untitled (date unknown)

Letter from James Lee Byars to Jim Butler

15 x 78 in. (38 x 198)

Black pen on gold foil paper

m.: Jim I drink a bottle of Fendant (Fåndån) to you its so pale if you shut yr. eyes it tastes like water its so frag mat 10 miles s it's max you prob. know then even a paler one exists they say called virgin it has a gold snake label if they'll have it – we go by the search for the Tibetan wizard (I comb corn with) Please come to Paris Jim and be one of the world ce- lebs. in the Gold Pool at Paris modern (it'll painted the color gold Risone of Napoleons court of Honor (its 5ft. deep old elegant and won't hold water so I paint it gold for the 100 telepaths) You pompidou B.B. Sartre Grillet Fouc[uo?]auto[w] (philogeni) it mayB. the first of Sept. or the 10th or even early Oct. But just imag. how each would enter the pool no talk- ing 10 min. or 5 world television'll come esp. with pompidou coming and the fabulous Brains of Corn mayB. even Herman and Fidel or Kissinger (be terrif.) I met the great "Yuan" at the BL. For he was preparing 1000 yr. old eggs for lunch that he'd made in NY he a. Brook have Star trying with proton collisions to isolate monopod magnetic poles (none exist so far) P.C.'s are all Atomic Res's Biggest energy But he sa. us chuckle chuckle it's prob. not strong enough yet and we Both chuckle with the simple knowledge of the Buddha who stays Behind Both yes and no and higher at moments some say where nethers measurable its (mon. maq. Ps) proB. a False hypoth But what collos. energ. to try find out my



Untitled (1980)

Letter from James Lee Byars to Judith Aminoff

9 pieces approximately 5.5 x 6 in. (14 x 15 cm); framed 71 x 9.5 in. (180 x 24 cm)

Black pen on foil on beige Chinese paper

*m.: J. yr. yes and D's is a great gift
our notes crossed much too soon
merry x and "the Perfect Doubt"
Purely as we can Dick is ideal
Will be the grand don't know mind just as
to be asked for his photograph
Ask him? Maybe I can even
visit and help? it must be simple
thank you very much yrs JLB*



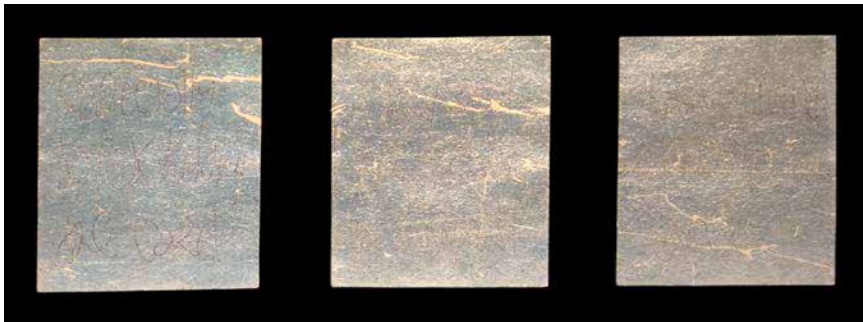
Untitled (1980)

Letter from James Lee Byars to Judith Aminoff

8 pieces approximately 6.5 x 5.5 x 8.5 (17 x 14 x 22 cm); framed 71 x 9.5 in. (180 x 24 cm)

Black pen on gold foil paper

*m.:
Dear Judy
can you
get dick
to hold up
the Perfect
Doubt fo
photo-show
merry x JLB*



Untitled (1980)

Letter from James Lee Byars to Judith Aminoff

11 pieces approximately 4.5 x 5.5 (11 x 14 cm); framed 71 x 9.5 in. (180 x 24 cm)

Black pen on foil coated pages

m.:

*Dear J in fact I think
Just Dick and one or two
guests at "the Perfect Doubt"
is ideal a photograph of
especially Dick holding the card
very simply or just alone in his great
Gallery would be perfect for cover
as a Brief History of Doubt in
Eastern and Western philosophy
may have a scholarly Report soon
I hope you will agree James Lee Byars*



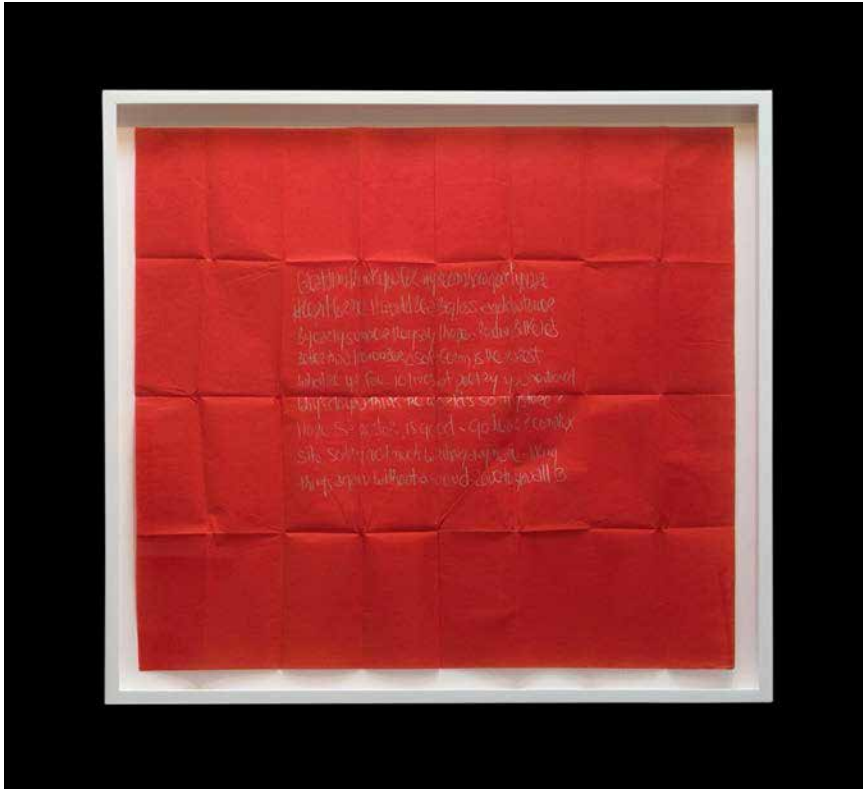
Untitled (Date Unknown)

Letter from James Lee Byars to unknown recipient

8 pieces each approximately 6 x 6 in. (15 x 15 cm)

Black pen on purple paper cut into heart shapes

*m.: Beau. Every expla. is hypoth. is true /
This very mo. I got 3 lets. two/
days ago. Soon is true? I hope to /
find out more tom. Q. with you /
in the Big Black Coat Sounds /
Sunday today. one month/
witho. you. Very Sad I Am.
Wonder where you might be*



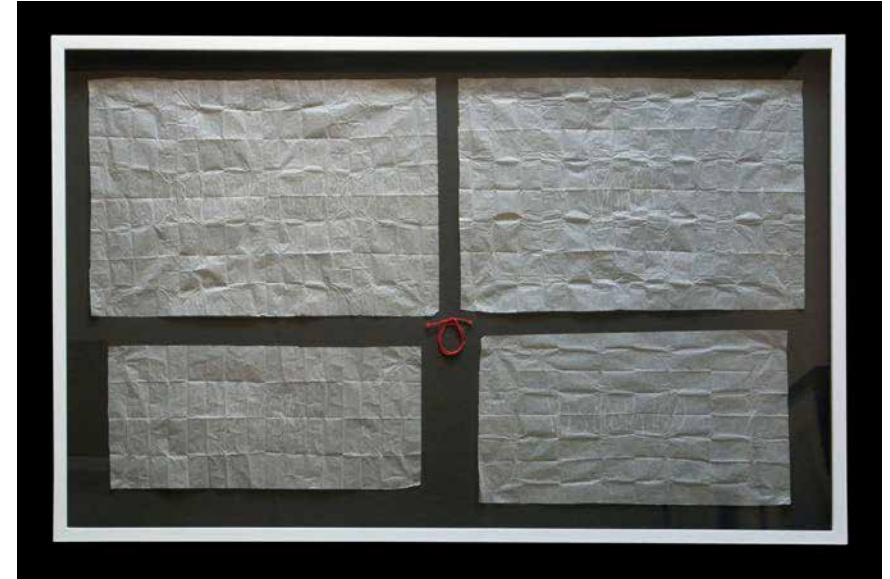
Untitled (date unknown)

Letter from James Lee Byars to Jim Butler

24 x 21.5 in. (61 x 55 cm); framed 26.75 x 24.5 in. (68 x 62 cm)

Silver pencil on paper one side painted red

m.: Great Jim thank you for my room how good you are / to keep it for me it would be a Big loss. a Golden tower / By early summer they say I hope. Reading Rilke he's / Better than I remember a soft Germ. is the rarest / What're yr. fav. 10 lines of poetry you mentioned / Why's do you think the world's so mystere? / Hope S's perfor. is good – go hear? Complex / situ. Sorry not much writing anymore – liking / things again without a sound. Love to you all. B.



Untitled (date unknown)

Letter from James Lee Byars to Jim Butler

14.5 x 9.5 in. (37 x 24 cm); 14.25 x 9.5 in. (36 x 24 cm); 13 x 5.5 in. (33 x 14 cm); 13 x 7 in. (33 x 18 cm); framed 33.25 x 21 in. (84 x 53 cm)

White pencil on four sheets of white tissue paper original bound together with red string

m.:

J. My newest Cern Show J.

Yow I

Hows Genie

th's death too



Untitled (1980)

Letter from James Lee Byars to Richard Bellamy

29 x 19 in. (74 x 48 cm); framed 32.75 x 22.75 (8v3 x 58 cm)

Gold pencil on black paper

m.: Dick this's exa the siz of MIRV? / to Begin with "the Death of James Lee Byars" / Ask MoMA to have me JS there / Quietly lie down and Quietly stand up a very refined / Artist for Sep til Dec? At least / Beginning Please be sweet and ask for me? Love JB / You should do it? Ask Copley? I'd like



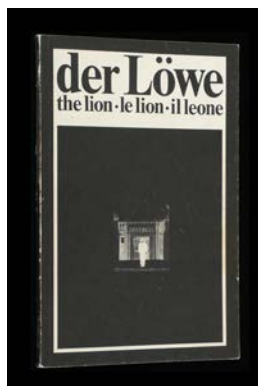
The Black Book (1971)

Original maquette of multiple published 1971 entitled "The Black Book."

14 x 19 in. (36 x 48 cm)

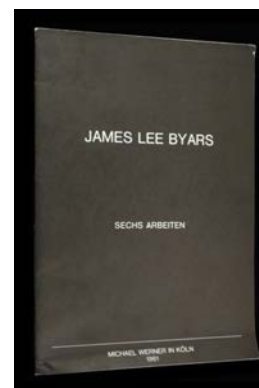
Black offset print on white paper

28-page maquette of "The Black Book," a one page book that consist of a collection of 100 questions from scientists in various disciplines, which later appeared as the cover of the December-January issue of Flash Art. Each page has been written on by Byars in pencil. Examples include: "I noticed I think in L.A. Times," "I hope Jimmy's okay," and "666 ceiling is high enough."



der Löwe (the lion / le lion / il leone)

James Lee Byars
Lisbeth Kornfeld, Bern, 1976. No. 7 April 1976. Octavo 7.5 x 5". Softcover stiff wraps.



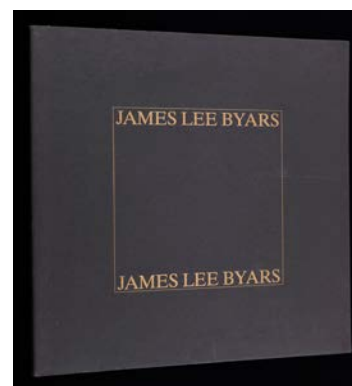
Sechs Arbeiten

James Lee Byars
Michael Werner, Köln, 1981. First Edition. Quarto 11.5 x 8.25". Softcover stiff wraps.



Untitled (White Book, Kunsthalle Bern Exhibition Catalogue)

James Lee Byars
 Afterword by Reiner Speck.
Kunsthalle Bern, Switzerland, 1978. First Edition. Quarto 9.5 x 9.5". Softcover stiff wraps. Exhibition catalogue / artists' book published in conjunction with show held June 16 - July 30, 1978. Texts by James Lee Byars with images of his actions and works. Text in English and German.



James Lee Byars

Westfälischen Kunstverein, Münster, 1982. First Edition. Quarto 9.5 x 9.5". Softcover stiff wrappers. Published for the exhibition July 18 - September 26, 1982. Text in German.



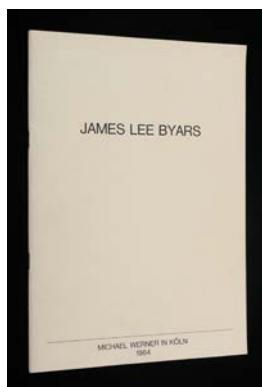
Untitled (White Book, FAR, Los Angeles, 1980)

James Lee Byars
Foundation for Art Resources, Inc. (FAR), Los Angeles, 1980. First Edition limited to 500 copies. Quarto 11 x 11". Softcover stiff wraps.



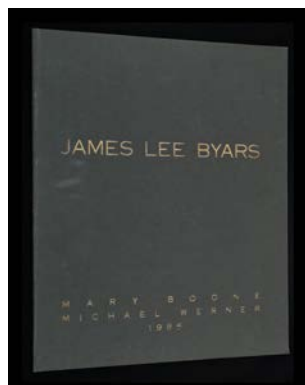
Golddust is my Ex-Libris (The White Book)

James Lee Byars
Musee D'art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, 1983. First Edition. Square Quarto 8.5 x 8.5". Softcover stiff plain white wrappers. Artist's book that could be interpreted as Byars personal and artistic manifesto.



James Lee Byars

Michael Werner, Köln, 1984. First Edition. Quarto 11.5 x 8.25". Softcover stiff wraps.



James Lee Byars

Mary Boone & Michael Werner, New York, 1985. First Edition. Quarto 11 x 9.25". Softcover stiff wraps. Exhibition catalogue published in conjunction with the show held September 7 – 28, 1985.



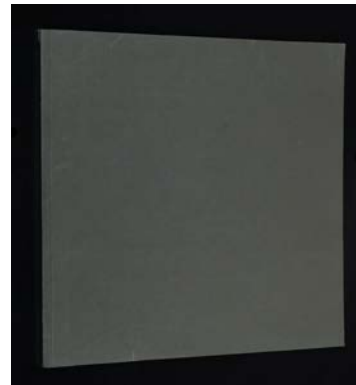
James Lee Byars

Kent, New York, 1988. First Edition. Octavo 6 x 4". Softcover stiff wraps with jacket. Exhibition catalogue published in conjunction with the show held February 4 – March 5, 1988.



The Path of Luck

*James Lee Byars
Michael Werner Gallery, New York, 1991. First Edition. Octavo 7.5 x 5". Hardbound no jacket as issued. Published for the exhibition April 5 – May 18, 1991.*



Is

*James Lee Byars
Galería La Máquinañola, Madrid, 1992. First Edition. Quarto 9.5 x 9.5". Softcover stiff wraps. Exhibition catalogue published in conjunction with the show held January 30 to March 15, 1992.*



The Palace of Perfect

*James Lee Byars
Texts by Kevin Power, Thomas McEvelley & Vicente Todoli
Fundação de Serralves, Porto, Portugal, 1997. First Edition. Octavo 9 x 7". Hardbound in black boards. Exhibition catalogue published in conjunction with the show held October 9 to December 7, 1997.*



James Lee Byars

The Arts Club of Chicago, 1998. First Edition. Octavo 7.5 x 5". Softcover stiff wraps. Exhibition catalogue published in conjunction with the show held September 16 – November 21, 1998.



Five Points Make a Man

James Lee Byars
Essay by Brenda Richardson
Michael Werner, New York, 2008. First Edition. Quarto 12.5 x 9.25". Softcover stiff wraps. Exhibition catalogue published in conjunction with the show held February 7 – March 29, 2008.



The White Mass

James Lee Byars
Text by Heinrich Heil, Friedhelm Mennekes, Barbara Catoir, Thomas McEvilley; Interview by Wolf Günter Thiel
Walther König, Köln, 2004. First Edition. Octavo 8.5 x 8". Hardbound in white cloth.



The Rest is Silence

James Lee Byars
Essay by Klaus Ottmann
Michael Werner Gallery, New York, 2006. First Edition. Quarto 11.75 x 9.75". Hardbound in black velvet boards. Published for the exhibition Mary Boone Gallery, New York, April 28 – June 24 & May 18 – 24 June, 2006; Perry Rubenstein Gallery April 28 – June 24, 2006; Michael Werner Gallery April 27 – June 24, 2006.



A White Paper Will Blow Through the Streets (1967)

27 in. Diameter (69 cm)

Offset Lithograph on Japanese paper

Edition: unknown

Invitation to a performance James Lee Byars enacted at the Kyoto Museum in 1967. At one point during the performance a white paper did blow through the streets of old Kyoto.



The Golden Tower (1974)

71 x 19 in. (180 x 48 cm); Framed
74.5 x 22.75 in. (189 x 58 cm)

2 conjoined sheets of black paper printed in gold. Length of sheets together is equivalent of James Lee Byars height (5'11").

Edition: unknown

Top half consist of 100 sentences selected from Shakespeare edited by Byars, containing the word 'Gold'. Bottom half consist of texts by H. Szeemann, K. Ruhrberg, T. Deecke, H. Retzner, L. Burkhardt, W. Schmied, M. Haerdter, prof. Eliot. Issued as the "catalogue" for the exhibition "The Golden Tower", Galerie R. Springel, Berlin, under the artist program, the Berliner Künstlerprogramm des DAAD, 1974. Berlin, Gal. R. Springer and Berliner Künstler Programm des DAAD, 1974.



The Black Book (1971)

14 x 19 in. (36 x 48 cm)

Black tissue paper printed in gold offset

Herman Daled, Brussels, Belgium, 1971.

Edition: unknown

One page book that consist of a collection of 100 questions from scientists in various disciplines printed in tiny characters unreadable to the naked eye with imaginary covers. First distributed to guests at Forêt de Soignes near Brussels, Belgium, in February 22, 1971. Later appeared as the cover of the December-January issue of Flash Art with a caption reading: *"Distributed through James Lee Byars in Bruxelles in February 1971, courtesy of Herman Daled; June 1971, Los Angeles County Museum; October 1971, Michael Werner Gallery, Cologne."*



Beauty Goes Avant-Garde (1986)

15.25 x 20.5 in. (39 x 52 cm)

Folded poster, black ink on thin white paper

Galerie Michael Werner, Köln, 1986.

Edition: unknown



The Grand Salon of James Lee Byars

December tenth, Eleven p.m.

The Palm Court

The Plaza

New York

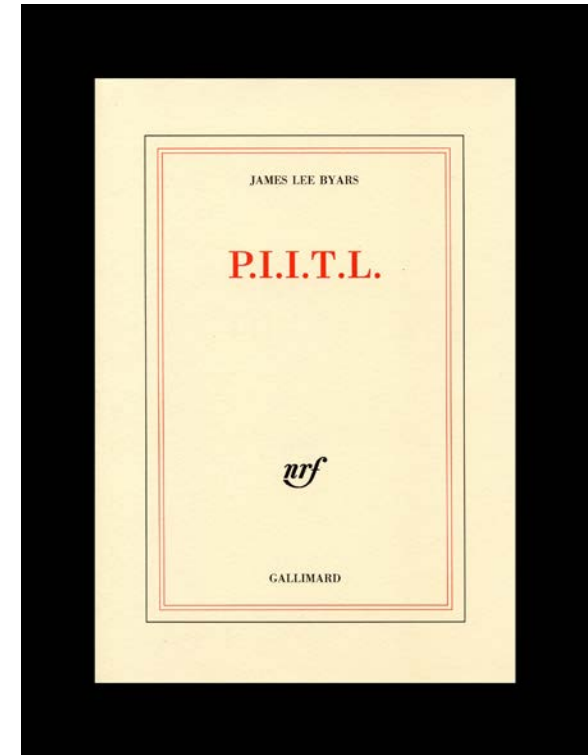
Patrons: Bellamy, Brockman, Butler, Landsman, McEvelley, Verner, Waterman, The National Endowment for the Arts

No Date

4.5 x 6.5 in. (11 x 17 cm)

Black envelope with the above text written in gold calligraphy to the recto, enclosed is a large crumpled piece of black tissue paper.

Edition: unknown



P.I.I.T.L. (Perfect is in the Louvre, 1990)

8.25 x 5.5 in. (21 x 14 cm)

11 x 16.5 in. thick linen paper folded into quarters printed in black and red.

Editions Gallimard, 1990.

Edition: 1000

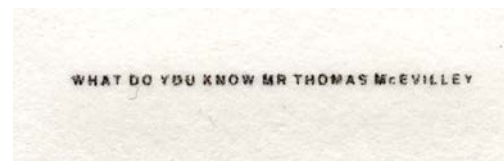
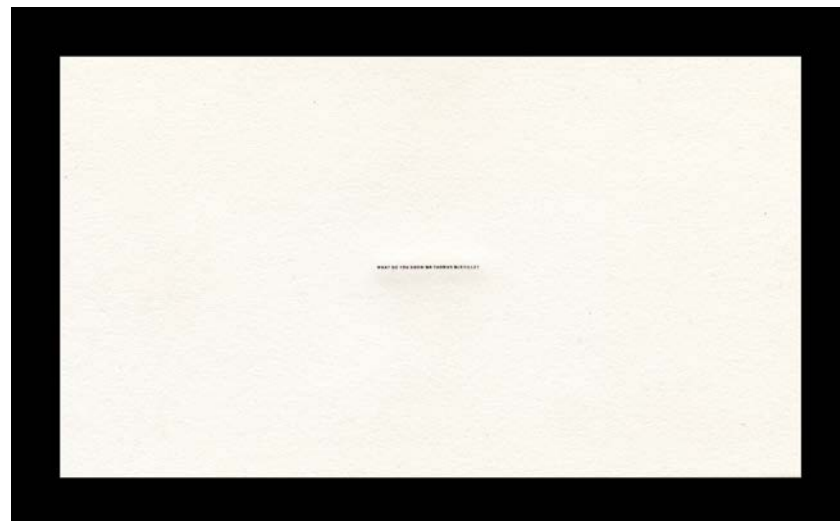


Untitled (no date)

3 x 5 in. (8 x 13 cm)

Piece of silk with "James Lee Byars" printed in black in the middle enclosed in white paper envelope printed "13 MAART 13.30 UUR / VAN ABBEMUSEUM EINDHOVEN" to flap

Edition: unknown



WHAT DO YOU KNOW MR THOMAS McEVILLEY (no date)

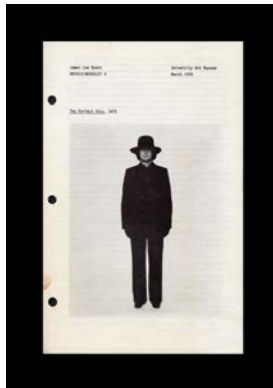
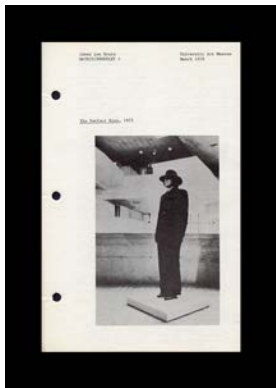
2 x 3 in. (5 x 8 cm)

Cream cardstock printed in black microscopic type

Edition: unknown



The Hundred One Page Books
Exhibition announcement
Rofl Preisig, Basel July 1-23,
1977



from left to right:

Two different versions of Matrix 4 hole punched exhibition pamphlet,
March 1978

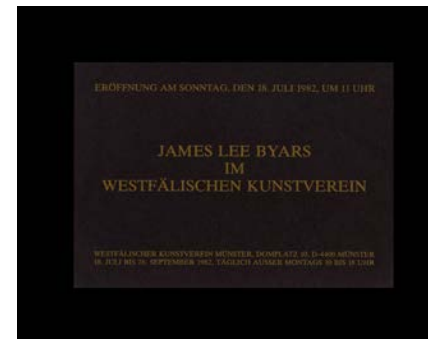
Matrix 5 hole punched exhibition pamphlet, March 1978



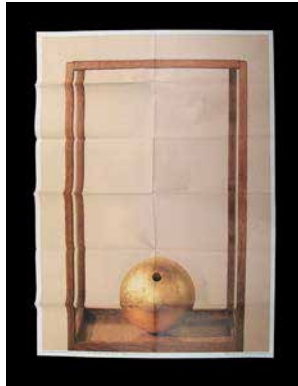
The Perfect Kiss: A One Act
Play in the lobby of the Univer-
sity Art Museum Berkeley, 1978.
Performed noon Wednesdays
through Sundays from March 11-
26, 1978.
Folded announcement



Exhibition announcement
Galerie Helen van der Meij,
Amsterdam
April 11 – May 13, 1981



James Lee Byars im Westfälis-
chen Kunstveren, Münster
Exhibition announcement
July 18 to September 26, 1982



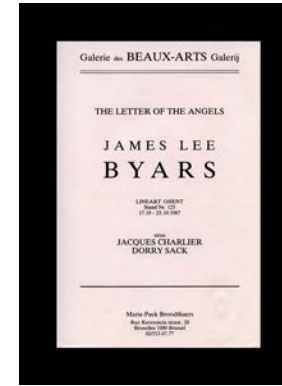
The Golden Book
Folded Exhibition poster
Byars, Chamberlain, Fischl,
Lasker, Salle, Van Vilet
Galerie Michael Werner, Köln
September 9-30, 1987



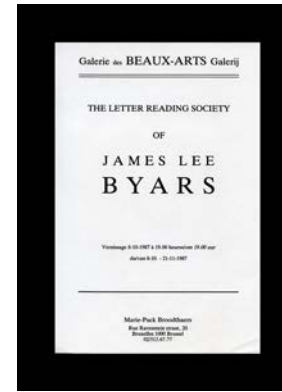
The Book for Question
Exhibition announcement
Capp Street Project, Berkeley
February 1-28, 1987



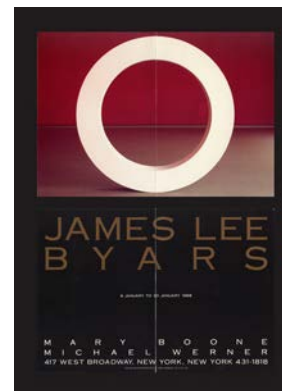
The Book for Question
Press release



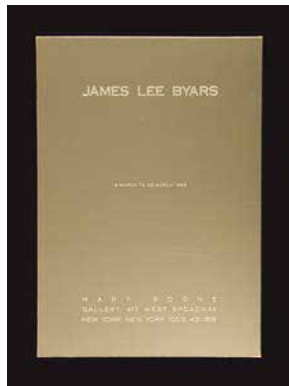
The Letter of Angels
Exhibition announcement
Marie-Puck Broodthaers/
Galerie des Beaux-Arts Galerij, Brux-
elles
October 17-25, 1987



The Letter Reading Society of
James Lee Byars
Exhibition announcement
Marie-Puck Broodthaers/
Galerie des Beaux-Arts Galerij, Brux-
elles
November 21, 1987



Exhibition announcement
Mary Boone & Michael Werner,
New York
January 9-30, 1988



Exhibition announcement
Mary Boone Gallery, New York
March 4-25, 1989



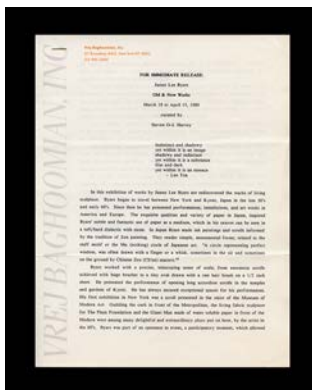
Exhibition announcement poster
(image shows outside left; interior printed in gold right)
Galerie de France, Paris
September 29-October 23, 1989



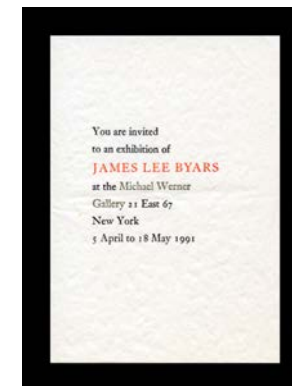
Old and New Works
Exhibition announcement
Vrej Baghoomian, Inc., New York
March 18-April 15, 1989



Neun, none, noon, nine
Press release with 7 small gold disk and small black squares printed 666
Walther König, Köln, 1990



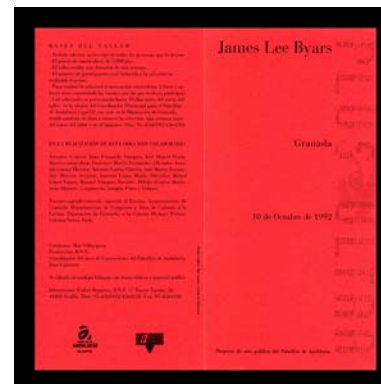
Old and New Works
Press release



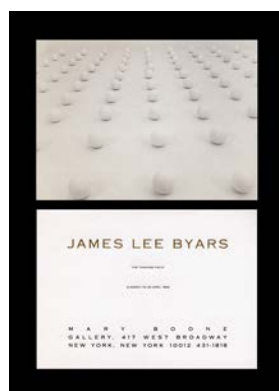
Exhibition announcement
Michael Werner Gallery, New York
April 5-May 18, 1991



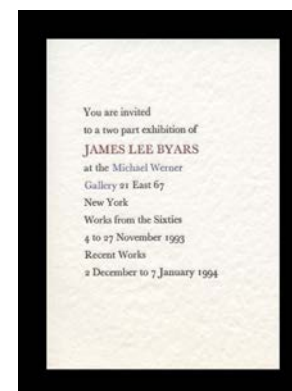
The Self Portrait of James Lee Byars
Exhibition announcement, black envelope printed in small gold type to upper left corner tiny plastic ball enclosed
Vrej Baghoomian Gallery, New York
January 11- February 1, 1992



Granada
Exhibition announcement
Pabellón de Andalucía
October 1992



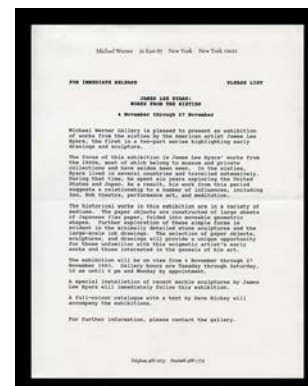
The Thinking Field
Exhibition announcement
Mary Boone Gallery, New York
March 14- April 25, 1992



Work from the Sixties / Recent Works
Exhibition announcement (two parts)
Michael Werner Gallery, New York
November 4-27, 1993 / December 2- January 7, 1994 respectively



The Thinking Field
Press release



Work from the Sixties
Press release & List of works.



Sonne, Mond, Sterne
Exhibition announcement
Württembergischer Kunstverein,
Stuttgart
June 27- 1 August, 1993



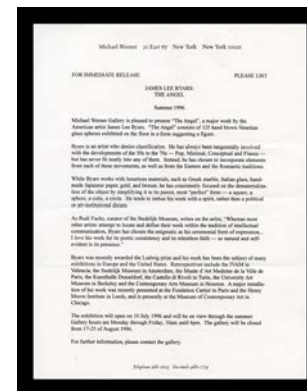
Perfect Is My Death Word
Bücher, Buchskulpturen, Mul-
tiples, Ephemera
Exhibition announcement
Neues Museum Weserburg,
Bremen
August 25- November 26, 1995



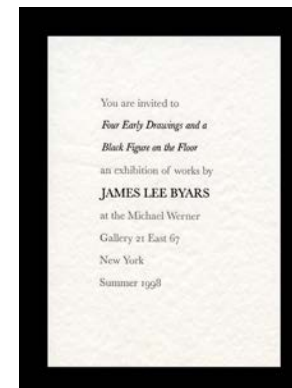
Five Points Make a Man, The
Moons, and Constellations
Exhibition announcement
Michael Werner Gallery, New
York
September 14- 21 October,
1995



The Angel
Exhibition announcement
Michael Werner Gallery, New
York
Summer 1996



The Angel
Press release



Four Early Drawings and a Black
Figure on the Floor
Exhibition announcement
Michael Werner Gallery, New
York
Summer 1998



Four Early Drawings and a Black Figure on the Floor
Press release



The Rose of Perfect and Slit Moon (two sculptures)
Exhibition announcement
Michael Werner Gallery, New York
July through September 1999



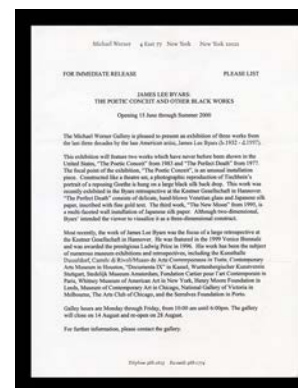
Drei Skulpturen
Exhibition Announcement
Galerie Michael Werner, Köln
April 9- May 8, 1999



Exhibition Announcement
Kestner Gesellschaft, Hannover
July 3- September 18, 1999



The Poetic Conceit and Other Black Works
Exhibition announcement
Michael Werner Gallery, New York
June 2000



The Poetic Conceit and Other Black Works
Press release



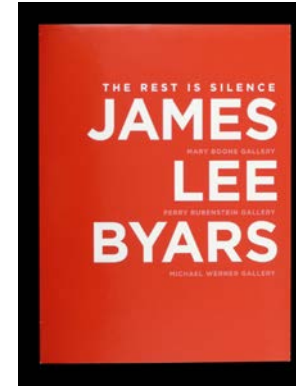
Perfect is My Death Word
Exhibition announcement
Maison Levanneur, Chatou
October 10- January 9, 2000



James Lee Byars – Letters to
Beuys
Exhibition announcement
Muhka Museum van He-
dendaagse Kunst Antwerpen
June 18-September 17, 2000



Life, Love and Death
Musée d'Art moderne et con-
temporain, Strasbourg
December 10, 2004- March 13,
2005



The Rest is Silence
Exhibition announcement
Mary Boone Gallery: April 28-
June 24, 2006 & May 18- June
24, 2006
Michael Werner Gallery: April
27- June 24, 2006
Perry Rubenstein Gallery: April
28- June 24, 2006



The Diamond Floor
Exhibition announcement
Michael Werner Gallery, New
York
March 3- 29, 2008



Five Points Make a Man: A Daily
Performance with Water Drops
Exhibition announcement
Michael Werner Gallery, New
York
February 7- March 1, 2008

James Lee Byars

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