

Rarities from 1917: Facsimiles of *The Blind Man* *No.1*, *The Blind Man No.2* and *Rongwrong*

A few years after his arrival in the United States, Marcel Duchamp, together with his friends Henri-Pierre Roché and Beatrice Wood, published three small and very short-lived issues of what can only be described as genuine Dada-journals: *The Blind Man No.1* (April 1917; Arturo Schwarz, *The Complete Works of Marcel Duchamp*, vol. 2, New York: Delano Greenidge, 1997, # 346), *The Blind Man No. 2* (May 1917; # 347) and *Rongwrong* (July 1917; #348). Of the three, the *Blind Man No. 2* is best remembered for publishing documents surrounding the scandal of Duchamp's 1917 urinal *Fountain*. But the other numbers also hold an abundance of material on the budding, European-infiltrated and subversive New York art scene.

Without further ado, dear reader, please see for yourself!

Only once before, in 1970, were print-facsimiles of the three magazines made. Published in a small edition by Arturo Schwarz (Documenti Dada e Surrealisti, Archivi d'Arte del XX Secolo, Rome; editor: Gabriele Mazzotta, Milan) in a brown cardboard folder whose design imitates wood, *Dada Americano* also includes reprints of Duchamp's and Man Ray's one and only issue of *New York Dada* (April, 1921) as well as the latter's four-page foldout of the *Ridgefield Gazook* (No. 0, March 31st, 1915).

The following clickable flip-through visuals of all pages of both issues of the *Blind Man* as well as *Rongwrong* are scans from the 1970 Schwarz edition and make their full content available to a large audience for the first time. The original

magazines are part of the Vera, Silvia and Arturo Schwarz collection Dada and Surrealist Art at the Israel Museum of Art, Jerusalem.

In recent years, the International Dada Archive of the University of Iowa has started to scan and mount documents from their collection: A number of early Dada magazines may be viewed at <http://sdr.lib.uiowa.edu/dada/collection.htm>

(suggested reading: Beatrice Wood, *I Shock Myself*, San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 1985, esp. pp. 26-36; Francis M. Naumann, *New York Dada 1915-1923*, New York: Abrams, 1994, esp. pp. 46-47, 184-187; Francis M. Naumann, *Marcel Duchamp: The Art of Making Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction*, New York: Abrams (distrib.), 1999, pp. 74-75)

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