

Jean-Michel Basquiat Drawing: Work from the Schorr Family Collection

By Fred Hoffman

Rizzoli; Contribution by Acquavella Galleries

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Jean-Michel Basquiat, *Untitled (Bluto Nero)*, 1982, acrylic and oilstick on paper.

THE SCHORR FAMILY COLLECTION. ©THE ESTATE OF JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT/ADAGP, PARIS/ARS, NEW YORK 2014/ PHOTO BY KENT PELL.

Basquiat's works command staggering sums these days (a record-setting painting fetched \$48.8 million last year), but two of his most devoted collectors have never sold a single piece. Lenore and Herbert Schorr met Basquiat in 1981 and bought his work until he died, seven years later. Now, Acquavella Galleries in New York is showing drawings from the Schorr Collection, and this book expertly explains their importance. Fred Hoffman, a former dealer who met Basquiat through Larry Gagosian in 1982 and co-curated the artist's 2005 Brooklyn Museum retrospective, takes the reader through recurring themes in Basquiat's oeuvre (boxers and Charlie Parker, among others), tackling the artist's various styles and subject matter with direct and lucid prose.