

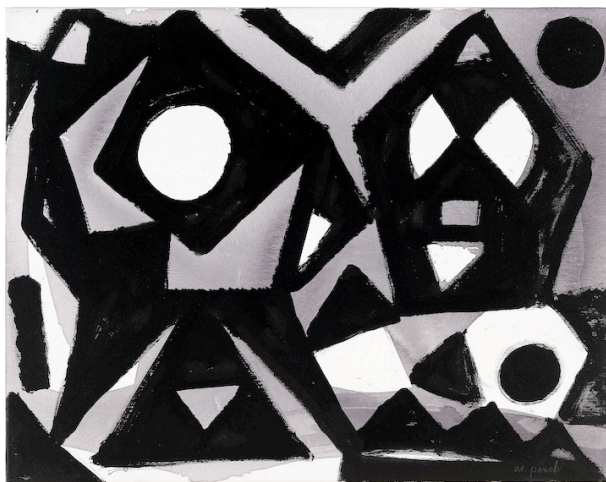
## A.R. Penck

Cardi Black Box | Corso di Porta Nuova 38 | Milan

On view through the end of November 2012

Cardi Black Box is proud to present an important retrospective dedicated to **A.R. Penck** (Dresden, 1939), one of the major representatives of German New-expressionism. The show remains on view and open to the public till the end of November 2012.

The retrospective documents the fundamental part of A.R. Penck's artistic production spanning from the late 70's to his most recent works with paintings and sculptures showcasing the different phases of his research. About 40 pieces are on display, including large canvasses and sculptures, making it possible to track down the central themes and motifs of his aesthetic and his whole artistic investigation. Moreover, the show at Cardi Black Box—with 14 bronzes on display—gives the public the occasion to better understand Penck's sculptural work, a category which is still less known due to the fewer number of shows focused on this part of his production.



**A.R. Penck**, pseudonym of Ralf Winkler, was born in 1939 in, at the time, East Germany. Disliked by the communist regime because he was considered a subversive element, he was denied admission to the academy of art. His education was therefore self-taught and oriented toward varied fields, from painting to philosophy, from sciences to history of religions and music. This rich background affected the different phases of his heterogeneous artistic production—one that moved from painting to graphics to experimentation in jazz music, poetry and cinema.

A.R. Penck is one of the artists that strongly contributed to the renewal of German painting. From the beginning of his pictorial activity, the artist distances himself from traditional painting to follow an independent career, developing in the movement of new-expressionism a personal style that combines figuration and abstraction through a markedly childlike brushstroke and intense chromaticism.

Inspired by prehistoric paintings, his compositions combine pictorial signs and archaic images, creating a universal lexicon—comprehensible and usable by everybody—and an original visual world. The central theme of his works is often the relationship between person and society.

In the 70's Penck's signs become more and more primordial: stylized figures and elementary symbols make their appearance and the artist almost resets his chromatic richness to use only black and white. From the end of the 70's Penck starts to work on sculptures, for which he uses materials such as marble, bronze and wood. His move to West Germany in 1980 marks a change toward the recovery of a bold chromatic accentuation and the introduction of tridimensionality.

# Card Black Box

With this show **Cardi Black Box** confirms its eclectic and versatile orientation that looks at young artists as well as great masters, at contemporary as well as historicized art. This orientation was first programmatically pointed out when the Gallery dedicated a solo show to another great German artist, **Jörg Immendorff**, titled "Late Paintings."

## **A.R. Penck Information**

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## **Open to the public**

Monday to Saturday 10am-7pm

## **Free entry**

## **MEDIA CONTACTS:**

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