

# RICHARD SALTOUN

## Roelof Louw

### Rolled Lead Piece 1970

Exhibition dates: 27 November – 13 December 2013

Karsten Schubert gallery, in association with Richard Saltoun Gallery, announces an exhibition of Roelof Louw's *Rolled Lead Piece* of 1970. This important work of British Conceptual art was last exhibited at the international survey exhibition *Between Man and Matter*: Tokyo Biennale 1970.

The final show to be staged in Karsten Schubert Gallery's, Soho, London, space the work will take over an entire room and consists of sheets of lead, rolled and then pushed towards the gallery walls. The lead sheets themselves are specified to a particular weight, in relation to the gallery surface area. Arising out of the Process Art movement of the 1960s, the work emphasizes the process of its own construction and tests the limits of the human body. It uses a traditional sculptural material – lead – in a non-traditional form and manner. The physical act of rolling out the lead becomes part of the work, with the work being interrupted at various stages and documented. The process is completed, when the exhibition has ended and the lead removed, ultimately destroying the gallery floor, and sold back to the supplier at the end of the exhibition for scrap.

#### Biography:

Roelof LOUW was born in 1935 in Cape Town, South Africa. He moved to London where he studied sculpture at St. Martin's School of Art in the 1960s, later becoming a lecturer at the school. He was part of the first generation of conceptual artists at St Martins, which included Gilbert and George and Barry Flanagan. Louw was one of 5 British artists included in Harold Szeemann's seminal exhibition *When Attitudes Become Form*, and exhibited in both Bern and London.

Louw is famous for his site-specific installations using unconventional materials, most notably *Soul City* 1967, a pyramid of over 8,000 oranges, which he encouraged visitors to take.

He later spent time teaching and working in the USA and Canada before settling again in Cape Town, where he lives and works today.

Louw's work is the subject of a forthcoming monograph, *Five Sites for Five Sculptures: Roelof Louw and British Sculpture since the 1960s* (Ridinghouse, 2014). The book includes discussion of the *Rolled Lead Piece* and documentation of both its 1970 and 2013 installations, and traces the origins, history, sites and contexts of his sculpture from London in the 1960s via North America to Cape Town. It will offer the first and most complete overview of Louw's work.

For exhibition and sales inquiries please contact [info@karstenschubert.com](mailto:info@karstenschubert.com) or [info@richardsaltoun.com](mailto:info@richardsaltoun.com)

**Press Information**

Please email [gair@picklespr.com](mailto:gair@picklespr.com)

**Visitor Information**

Exhibition venue:

Karsten Schubert Gallery  
Golden Square  
5-8 Lower John Street  
London W1F 9DR

Tel: 44 (0) 20 7734 9002

Gallery Hours: Monday to Friday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm, or by appointment

Nearest tube: Oxford Circus and Piccadilly Circus.