

## Stephen Friedman Gallery

**Multiple III:  
David Shrigley Screenprints  
Catalogue Raisonné  
Online Viewing Room**

15 July – 31 August 2020

**Edition launch:** Monday 13 July



Stephen Friedman Gallery is pleased to present 'Multiple III', the third iteration of its annual exhibition of editions by gallery artists. This year's online presentation brings together a complete catalogue raisonné of **David Shrigley's** screenprints from 2012 onwards and is accompanied by the launch of a new edition by the British artist.

Shrigley is best known for his distinctive drawing style and works that are deadpan in humour. He first made prints while studying at Glasgow School of Art by experimenting with woodcuts, lithographs, etchings and monoprints. His screenprints, however, are a more recent development in his practice. The artist explains, "the motivation for making them was that in the last seven or eight years I've made a lot of colour work on paper, acrylic paint on paper and I'm really aware that when you make works on paper they disappear quite quickly." Shrigley continues, "I found that making screenprints was a way of kind of keeping hold of the work... it allows for the work still to be around somehow and for it to be seen in a lot of different places." Recurring themes and thoughts pervade Shrigley's screenprints, capturing child-like views of the world, the perspective of animals and the appreciation or criticism of music. These quick-witted works often reveal chance utterings and snippets of overheard conversations.

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A new edition depicts a rainbow assortment of crayons accompanied by a request rendered in the artist's distinctive handwriting to use them to "write all over your walls." This work combines a humorous proclamation with painterly dexterity. The artist states, "I think screen printing in the way that I do it, it's made with a lot of screens so it's actually very difficult to tell the difference between the screenprint and the original painting. So even the more matte versus gloss parts of the paint is replicated in the screenprint. Sometimes the screenprint has more than 30 different screens. So I can't really tell which is which unless I actually touch the surface of the screenprint."

Shrigley was a Turner Prize nominee in 2013, following his major mid-career retrospective at the Hayward Gallery, London titled 'Brain Activity'. In September 2016, his monumental sculpture 'Really Good' was unveiled in Trafalgar Square, London for the Fourth Plinth Commission. From 2015 to 2018 the British Council-organised exhibition 'Lose Your Mind' travelled to six venues including Power Station of Art, Shanghai, China; Storage by Hyundai Card in Seoul, Korea and Instituto-Cultural-Cabañas in Guadalajara, Mexico. In January 2020 Shrigley was awarded the decoration of Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire or OBE. In March 2020, Ruinart Champagne announced Shrigley as its Artist Carte Blanche for 2020. The artist currently has an ongoing presentation in the Gallery at Sketch, London as part of a long-term programme of artist-conceived restaurants. His solo exhibition 'Do Not Touch the Worms' recently opened at Copenhagen Contemporary, Denmark.

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