

ALAN WOFSY FINE ARTS



ALBERTO GIACOMETTI, The Complete Graphics.

Herbert C. Lust. 240 pages. 411 reproductions. San Francisco: Alan Wofsy Fine Arts, 1991. ISBN 1-55660-093-3

Since its appearance in 1970, Herbert Lust's catalogue raisonné has become the standard reference on the artist's graphic work. This new edition is published in 1991 and contains illustrations and descriptions of an additional 43 works as well as new information and corrections of previous descriptions. Following is text from the first edition of this work:

"Long considered one of the major sculptors of the century, even before his death in 1966, Alberto Giacometti has until recently received scant recognition as a graphic artist. This despite the fact that his lithographs and etchings have become increasingly rare desiderata. Now, with the publication of this volume, a serious lacuna in the Giacometti bibliography has been filled. This book offers for the first time a panoramic view of the artist's work in this field and reveals him as one of the major graphic artists of our time. Concerning itself primarily with the lithographs and etchings, but with a valuable excursus on the drawings as well, the book includes a catalogue entry and illustration for every known Giacometti print.

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Pioneering collector of Giacometti graphics and close friend of the artist, Herbert C. Lust, not content with merely annotating the extant oeuvre in his *catalogue raisonné*, has provided an illuminating text which traces Giacometti's development in this medium from early surrealist efforts to the haunting images of the fifties and sixties. All this is presented against the background of Mr. Lust's intimate personal knowledge of the artist and supplemented by recollections of several conversations with the artist's brother and favorite model, Diego.

Among the highlights of the volume is the celebrated Studio lithograph series of 1954 which is reproduced here as a body for the first time. Also included are all of 150 illustrations for his own unfinished prose poem *Paris sans fin* which rounded out Giacometti's life work and may be one of the greatest illustrated volumes of our time.

Collectors of prints, books and drawings, art historians, dealers, and the interested layman will all find this volume both a major addition to the Giacometti literature and to the literature of printmaking in general. In compiling this work, Mr. Lust has erected a fitting monument to one of the creative giants of our age."