

BEN

Profile:

- Being a precursor of modern painting, Ben is a visionary artist with a unique and provocative approach.
- As a free electron on the international artistic scene, Ben plays with words and transforms his paintings into a philosophical manifesto.
- His collaboration with Daum has given birth to "Amour", not just a word but a universal symbol

Biography (1935)



Benjamin Vautier, known as Ben, a Swiss artist who lives in Nice, was born in Naples in 1935. In 1955, while searching for a new, possibly shocking form, he settled on the banana (or sock...). Shortly afterwards he joined forces with Arman and Klein, and in 1958, his second-hand record shop became a place for meetings, discussions and exhibitions. Ben then took his place on the international stage. A player of primordial importance in the Fluxus group as from 1962, and an observer/theoretician of the various movements in contemporary art, he became an ardent propagandist: actions in the street, creation of Total Theatre, and the acceptance of reality as art.

His identity as an artist was built up on painted cursive writing, white on a black background, characterised by a precise use of words. Ben's many-sided work is a single manifestation of the same thing. Each painting consists of one element juxtaposed onto another, whose interpretation changes with the passing years. The meaning takes precedence over the composition. From the 1970s his work was increasingly exhibited in Europe and throughout the world. **His way of constructing space was a forerunner of modern painting.** While Ben created poetry, theatre, cinema and music, founded several reviews and exhibited in galleries and museums all over the world, his work consists not so much of finished objects, but as of the gestures and words explaining them, together with thoughts on all kinds of philosophical artistic topics. He conceives the final purpose of art as an effective way of changing life and convincing other people.

Ben for Daum

The encounter between Ben and Daum took place in 2005 around a creation in paste of crystal.



The "**Amour**" collection: one word (love), a universal symbol. Versions in two colours: one warm (amber) and one cool (blue). A limited edition of 175 copies for each colour. Size: L 38.8 cm

The world of Ben



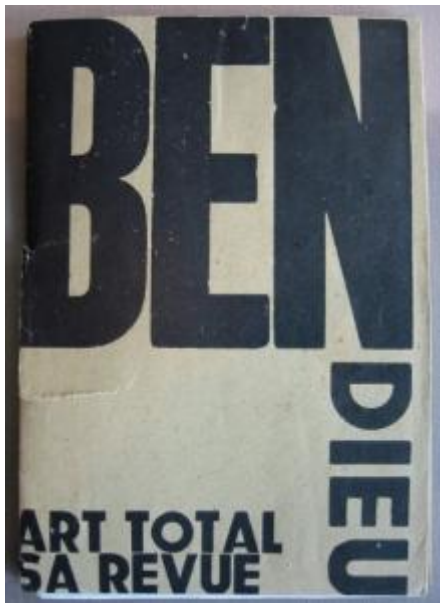
Print – Poster
Lithograph
Size: 54 cm x 65 cm

Price: €700



Painting
Created: 2005
Size: 70 cm x 70 cm

Price: €6,000



Audiovisual – Multimedia
Accumulation
Created: 1975
Size: 32 cm x 22 cm

Price: €1,455



Art d'aptitude de Ben
50 copies
Created: 1986
Size: 100 cm x 100 cm

Estimated at: €1,250