

For the blind man...

PETER FISCHLI & DAVID WEISS



In this video—and in their work in general—Peter Fischli and David Weiss pursue their urge to understand the world by asking large metaphysical and ethical questions about the human condition. In their hour-long promenade through the Swiss countryside, the artists search for peace and solace while negotiating the codes of altruism, ethics, and survival. Dressed as a rat and a bear, however, their earnest revelations become child's play, and are only marginally helpful. Made in a similar spirit, the series of drawings—newly revised and translated on the occasion of this exhibition—turn large existential categories into a game of rubber-band balls and summarize complex philosophical ideas in a school-teacher's Venn diagram.

(Sept. 11, 2009 –Jan. 3, 2010)

Peter Fischli was born in 1952 in Zürich, and David Weiss was born in 1946 in the same city; they both now live and work in Zürich. The two began to collaborate in 1979 and had their first solo exhibition in 1981 at the Galerie Balkon in Geneva. Solo exhibitions of Fischli and Weiss's work have been organized by the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, Museu d'Art Contemporani in Barcelona, and Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen in Rotterdam. In 1995 and 2003, they represented Switzerland in the *Venice Biennale*. Their work also appeared in the 1987 and 1997 *Documenta* exhibitions and in *Moving Pictures* at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum and Guggenheim Museum Bilbao. In 2007, their work was the subject of a retrospective exhibition, *Flowers and Questions*, that originated at the Tate Modern, London, and traveled to the Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Kunsthaus Zürich and the Kunstmuseum Hamburg.

Image:

*Order and Cleanliness, 2003-2009*

15 photocopies, 11 3/4 x 16 1/2 inches each

Courtesy of the artists and Matthew Marks

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