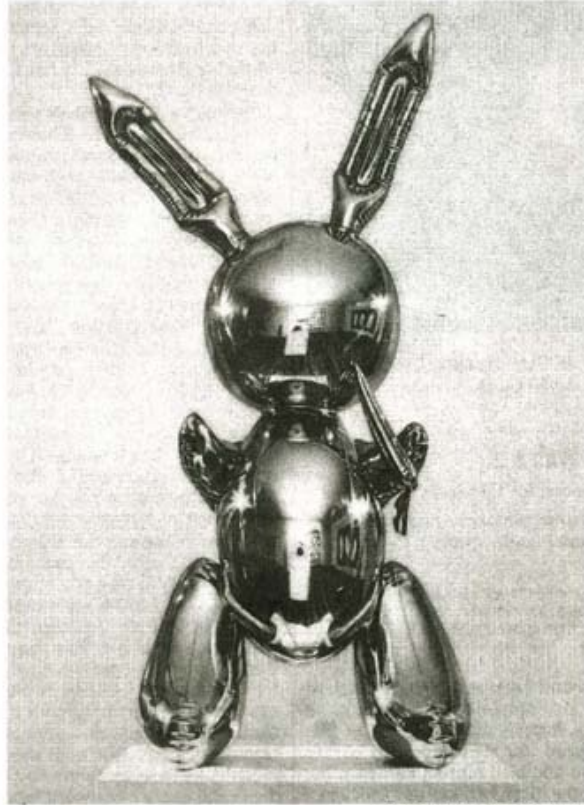


THE LISTINGS



Courtesy of Derek Eller Gallery, NY

DAN FISHER: 'STRANGELOVE' For some people, art is a religion: a constantly preoccupying, all-encompassing system of gods, saints, heroes, villains, myths and icons. Dan Fisher, a young New York-based artist, gives expression to that idea in a series of beautiful, small graphite drawings. Each is copied from a photocopy of a magazine or textbook photograph of a well-known artist or artwork. Subjects include Robert Smithson, Sol LeWitt and Piet Mondrian, who poses in his studio in a three-piece suit. The single artwork depicted in this exhibition is Jeff Koons's stainless-steel cast of an inflatable Mylar bunny, a gleaming totem for the postmodern era (above). With the fine grid of pencil lines used in the copying process left visible, these velvety drawings are devotional works of monkish craft. But do we detect an element of satire? Mr. Fisher's pantheon is such orthodox academic fare, you can't help suspecting that he might be partly mocking the cultish worship of certain Modern and contemporary artists and their works. His drawings produce a tantalizing dialogue between idolatry and iconoclasm. (Derek Eller, 615 West 27th Street, Chelsea, (212) 206-6411, through April 15.)

KEN JOHNSON