

John Tweddle and Anne Brown

Sept 1- Oct 15, Sundays 1-4pm and by appt

Blue Barn at 99 Willow Lane, Clinton Corners, NY 12514

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ART SALES & RESEARCH presents, for the gallery's Fall exhibition, newly discovered wall constructions and works on paper by the late outsider artist John Tweddle and sculpture to wear and assemblage by self taught artist Anne Brown.

The main room of the gallery features works by John Tweddle who passed away in the summer of 2022. There is a selected group of never before seen wall constructions and sketchbook drawings from the 1980's through the 2000's, found in his storage unit in Santa Fe, NM. John Tweddle made art until the day he died, using any materials available with the greatest innovation. Many of the works in the show reference "God". Although John considered himself a Christian in the 70's and 80's, he became disillusioned by organized religion, in his words turning to "art as a ritual attempt to become one with the infinite.

In the side gallery is a major assemblage piece by Anne Brown called "Paper Bullets", from 1995, a commentary on how our society throws money at problems and the misplaced value systems. On the adjacent wall there is an assortment of sculpture to wear necklaces by Anne Brown from the 60's through 80's, made from found objects like birds wings and fish bones to silver, copper and gemstones. Many of the works stem from her belief that " we have moved into an artificial world in which considerable contact with nature has been lost" as well as her "fascination with strangeness added to beauty...the balance between attraction and repulsion".

About the artists:

John Tweddle (1938-2022)

Kentucky-born outsider artist John Tweddle was raised by a trucker's family and spent his childhood moving about the country-spending time in Missouri, Georgia, California and New Mexico before settling in New York in 1969. From this experience, he developed an early capability of recording the life that sped past him, producing narrative and incisive artworks that explore ideas of class and art, his identity as a Southerner, his era's culture, commonly depicting naked women, trucks and peace signs. Strongly colored and patterned with recurring motifs like dollar signs and crosshatching, Tweddle's folkloric naive paintings and drawings were collected early on by influential art advocate Robert Scull, among the first to recognize artists such as Andy Warhol, Jasper Johns, Robert Rauschenberg and James Rosenquist. By 1980, Tweddle had retreated from New York's cultural milieu, preferring to work in isolation until his death in 2022.

John Tweddle exhibited in many institutions and galleries, including MoMA P.S.1, The Museum of Modern Art, in NY and Bonnefontenmuseum in Maastricht. He received two NEA grants and his work is in the permanent collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Anne Brown (b.1941)

A native to Boston's North Shore, Anne Brown creates sculpture, jewelry and assemblage using natural, man made and found and discarded materials, transforming familiar objects into unexpected forms.

Deriving from her daily life experiences, Brown developed her narrative "sculpture to wear" necklaces mainly between the 1960's-1980's, using a variety of organic materials such as birds wings, flattened frogs and tree fungus brought to her by neighborhood children and also her cats.

Her delicate yet provocative works are a celebration of life's anti-poetry, often creating an intimate dialogue between the grotesque and natural beauty inherent in nature. At the encouragement of Paul J. Smith, director at the The Museum of Contemporary Craft, NYC (later renamed The American Craft Museum), her skills quickly increased to include welding and silver and metalsmithing, incorporating semi precious stones, resins, enamels and other more permanent materials.

In the 60's and early 70's Brown wore her sculptural necklaces as a way to control the conversation in a male dominated art world. Her work moved into assemblage in the 80's through today, with increasing emphasis on the transformation of found objects, believing each material has something to say.

Her work has been in exhibitions at the Danforth Museum, (Framingham, MA), the Peabody Essex Museum, (Salem, MA), Bentley College, (Waltham, MA), the Cooper Hewitt Museum (NYC), Boston Museum of Science, Cape Cod Art Museum, Clark Gallery (Lincoln, MA), Gallery of the Eccentric, Coral Gables, FL, DeCordova Museum Corporate Collection, and Boston's Copley Society.