

# Akim Monet Fine Arts, LLC



**Joseph BEUYS (1921 - 1986)**

*La rivoluzione siamo Noi*

Phototype on polyester sheet, with hand-written text; stamped

Print size: 75 3/16 x 39 3/8 in (191 x 100 cm)

Framed size: 82 x 45 3/4 x 2 1/2 in (208.28 x 116.2 x 6.35 cm)

1972

Signed "Joseph Beuys" and numbered 45/180, inscribed "La rivoluzione siamo Noi," hand-stamped with the Hauptstrom stamp

Edition 180 plus 18 AP

Publishers: Modern Art Agency (Lucio Amelio), Naples and Edition Tangente, Heidelberg

## PROVENANCE

Il Ponte, Milan

## LITERATURE

*Joseph Beuys, The Multiples, A Catalogue Raisonné of multiples and prints 1965-1986* compiled and edited by Jörg Schellmann, 8. Edition (First Full English-Language Edition) 1997, Published by the Busch-Reisinger Museum, Harvard University Art Museums, Cambridge, Mass.; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; and Edition Schellmann, Munich-New York at Schirmer/Mosel Verlag. Munich, catalogue No. 49, illustrated in color p. 85 and catalogue entry p. 438

## EXHIBITED

*Rodin Rilke Beuys*, Fall 2015, Akim Monet Side by Side Gallery, Berlin (another example)  
*Disruptive selection*, Fall 2019, Popcorn Gallery Akim Monet Fine Arts, Los Angeles  
*Assisted Readymade*, Winter 2022, The Lone Star Gallery Akim Monet Fine Arts, Dallas

## OTHER EXAMPLES IN SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Museum of Modern Art, New York - Ed. 97/180  
The Broad, Los Angeles - Ed. 95/180  
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles - Ed. 67/180  
Walker Art Center, Minneapolis - Ed. 7/180  
The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston - Ed. 114/180  
Busch-Reisinger Museum, Harvard Art Museums, Cambridge - Ed. 21/180  
Kunstmuseum, Bonn  
Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich  
Staatsgalerie, Stuttgart - Ed. 180/180  
Tate, London - Ed. 163/180  
Scottish National Gallery, Edinburgh - Ed. 165/180

## NOTES

Close to life size, this photograph presents Beuys in his trademark ensemble of hat, fishing vest, jeans and leather boots. Striding purposefully toward the camera, he perfectly embodies the work's revolutionary call.

This multiple is based on a poster that was issued on the occasion of Beuys's first exhibition in Italy, which took place in Lucio Amelio's Modern Art Agency in Naples in 1971. In connection with the opening, Beuys gave a lecture in which he provided information on the goals and activities of his Organisation for Direct Democracy Through Free Collective Referendum, which he had recently co-founded in Düsseldorf.

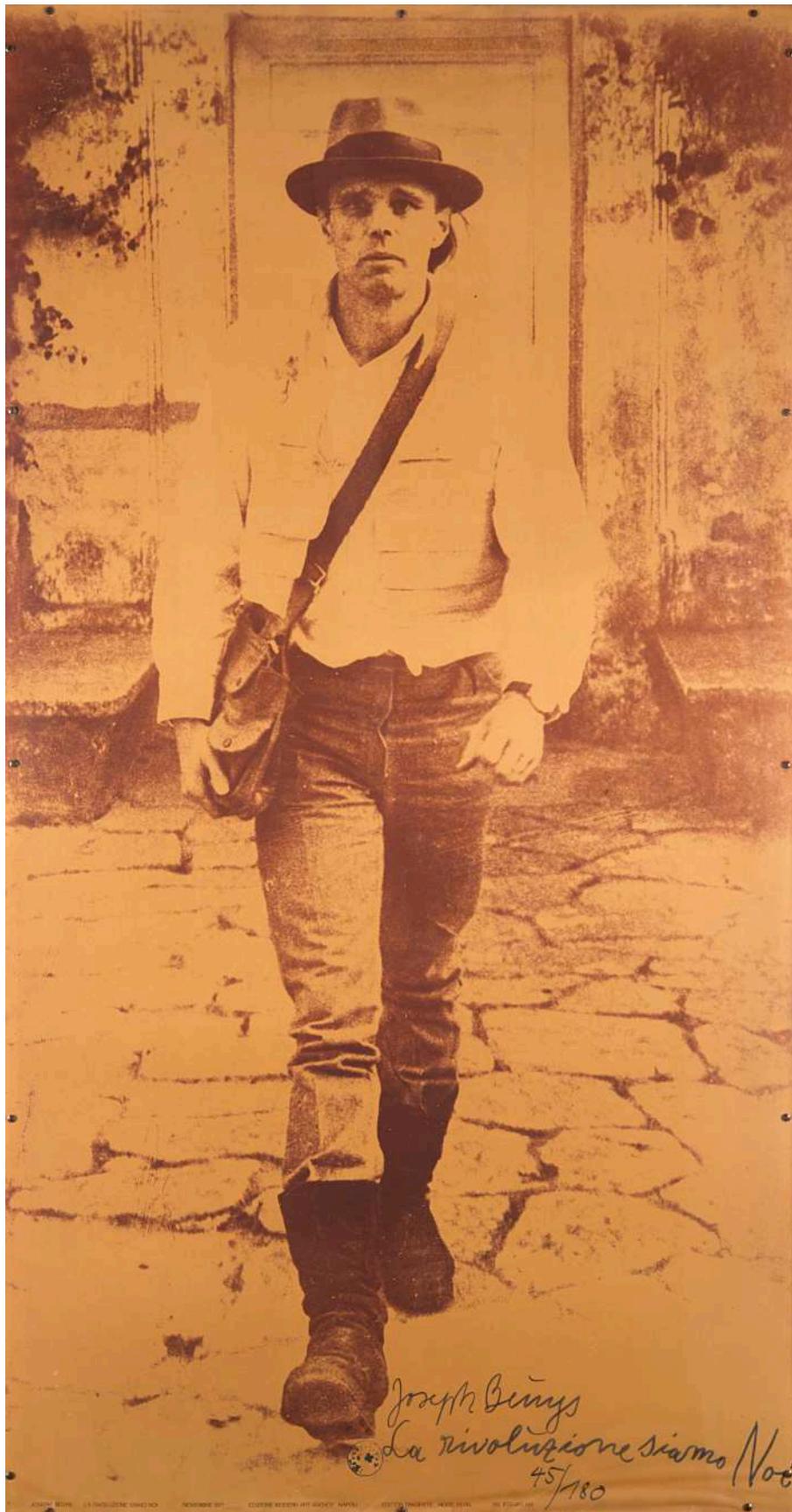
He argued for the inception of a new democratic social order, that in keeping with the teachings of Rudolf Steiner would fulfil the ideals of the French Revolution. In *We are the Revolution*, this call for change is condensed into a catchy slogan, which reflected Beuys's conviction that change can only be achieved through creative activity.

The multiples of Joseph Beuys. (2019). *The multiples of Joseph Beuys*. [online] Available at: <http://pinakothek-beuys-multiples.de/en/product/we-are-the-revolution/> [Accessed 24 Jul. 2019].

### Direct democracy

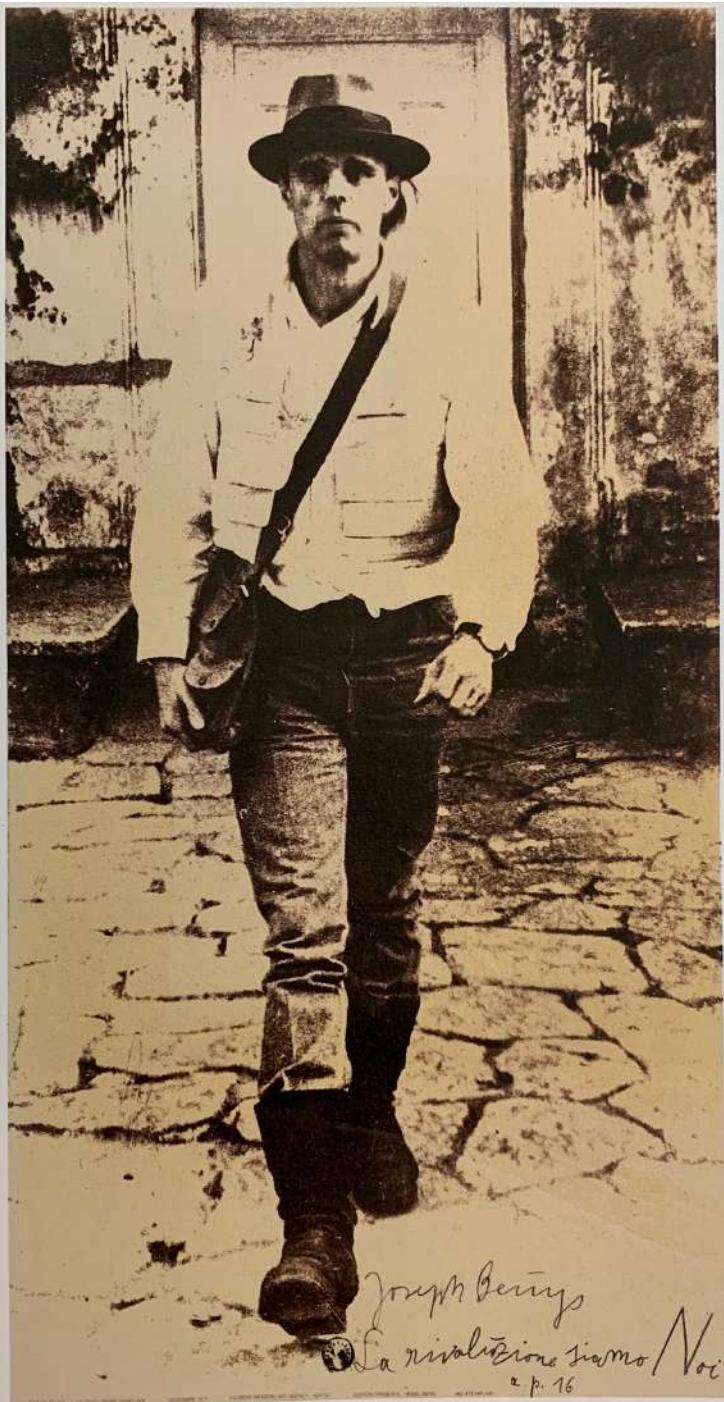
Direct democracy is a political process in which voters develop policies directly, instead of electing representatives to act on their behalf. It is deemed by its supporters to be more egalitarian than party-centred forms of democracy. Beuys began advocating direct democracy in March 1970, when he founded a political group called the Organisation of Non-voters, Free Collective Referendum [Organisation der Nichtwähler, Freie Volksabstimmung]. A year later, he merged this group into the Organisation for Direct Democracy Through Collective Referendum [Organisation für direkte Demokratie durch Volksabstimmung], which he co-founded with his former student Johannes Stütgen and his friend Karl Fastabend.<sup>1</sup> Both groups sought the abolition of political parties in favour of a system of direct referendum. By means of this system, Beuys hoped to see a more just society evolve in line with the terms of his 'theory of social sculpture'.

The multiples of Joseph Beuys. (2019). *The multiples of Joseph Beuys*. [online] Available at: <http://pinakothek-beuys-multiples.de/en/glossary/#direct-democracy> [Accessed 14 Sept. 2019].



Akim Monet Fine Arts, LLC  
2101 Cedar Springs Rd. Ste. 1050  
Dallas, TX 75201 - U. S. A.

Telephone +1 (424) 394 8480  
info@akimmonetfinearts.com  
www.akimmonetfinearts.com



49 **La rivoluzione siamo Noi** 1972

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Joseph Beuys, *The Multiples, A Catalogue Raisonné of multiples and prints 1965-1986*, p. 85

# JOSEPH BEUYS

## THE MULTIPLES



Joseph Beuys, *The Multiples, A Catalogue Raisonné of multiples and prints 1965-1986*, cover

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