A Hundred Posters

#8 August 1976

Alan Davies 68 Downer Ave. Dorchester MA 02125

copyright 1976 Alan Davies individual works copyright 1976 the authors

Ron Silliman:

PRIVATE PARTS

Yves Montand as an aging and weary anti-Franco agent living in Paris in Alain Resnais' extremely moving existentialist work. The everpopular surreal ballet, once again in circulation, that voluptuously recounts a Spanish legend of passion and death. Funny-tough, shatteringly

authentic

portrait of the restless

and violent

life-

style

of four young men

in New

York's

Little Italy.

Two

brilliant

offbeat works

by Robert Altman.

The clash of civilization

with a primitive,

pacifistic

environment is the theme

of this beautifully

produced

factual tale

of three whalers.

Belmondo and Anna

Karine

involved with dead bodies,

spy rings,

parodies

of the Vietnam War

and pyrotechnics

on the Riviera

in this

darkly

romantic

cult classic.

Chabrol's

gripping, sensual, perverse

triangle

involving a lesbian

photographer,

an undecided

young

Bohemian

and an architect.

Wry alleghory

of a vibrant

provincial

who revenges her oppressors

by becoming

a prostitute.

The mysterious,

hypnotic

and beautifully erotic

alleghory

of a man

and a woman trapped

in a sandpit

that probes

fundamental questions

of existence

and the meaning

Alan Davies:

Remembering 100s of Collages

of freedom.

Joe Brainard at the Fischbach Gallery

The collages are a cumulative image diary, a massive visual record of the months of making the works. They also refer to his past through images from adolescence; they record his obsessions, this fact pointed to in the dozen or so collages that deal with the habit of smoking cigarettes; and they record things that are somewhat on every mind: eating, romance, sex. As in Gertrude Stein, images and details repeat, where they are important. Thus the works are as accurate a sense of his personality as of his art; his art a record parallel to the images that run in his mind. We learn what he prefers, cherishes, eats. His work does not insist on ordering the world, but presents some of his pieces of it, extending them slightly to others.

Collage materials came out of magazines, pieces of advertising, printed labels, and such things as cards for pins that could be picked from trashbins in Soho. Some of the works are not collage; there are small paintings, portraits (of himself, of the male torso), designs, landscapes (sometimes the feeling of a landscape from materials used to other ends), still lifes (flowers for example). But most are assemblages of less common detail, because they are toward a less common end.

Most are not statements about structure or color. He uses these, usually not at all bluntly, to make a record of likeable images which he enhances by his treatment of them. He places images together;

sometimes one shows through a hole cut in another; he surrounds them by paint or extends them with additional drawn lines -- all technique draws them into a different space. His paint is mostly light soft colors, some pastel in feeling, made unobtrusive by brushing loosely around pieces of pictures.

In some he integrates pieces of his writing, so they accurately correspond to more of his varied activity. The smaller works especially, on blank postcards with his name printed on the back, feel as if made to give to individuals, a correspondence. All the works have this intimacy, though with a range of emotion (humor, sentiment, critical faculty, tenderness, memory) within that personal limit.

Visually most are very striking, but some are abandoned as if the artist had reasons other than only visual ones for the work he was releasing. Looking around the gallery, you can locate ones that struck you as you first saw them more closely; they are distinct enough so your immediate reaction to each can vary a lot.

Surrounded by the collages, you are in his world, as accurately as he could get you there. You feel that you've had dinner with him every night for a year.

Donald Quatrale:

PROGRESSIONS FROM SHORELINE

LOGGING HAS COME TO REST WHITE TREES BLEACHING OFF A DARKER BARK THE BEACH A CRESCENT OF ABRUPT ASPHALT SMOOTHS PURPLE STARFISH LINKED ALONG CHIPS NOT ROLLING I'M COMING HOME, LITTLE CRABS GONE BLACK WE ARE NOT ALONE BURGANDY TRUMPETS FROM OPAQUE CENTERS AND WE COME FROM BELOW THE LEDGE, WE ARE THE OVERFLOW, A COMMUNITY OF ANEMONES AND OYSTERS OUR VAGINAS KELP OUR SKIN AND HAIR THE CLAM OUR CURIOUS PENIS OUR HOUSE IS THE FIRST VOWEL OF THE LANGUAGE IT IS A POETIC BECOMING AN ANIMAL NAILS GROWING, ABLE TO CLIMB TREES

fully aware of our ironic position

I feel my albumen

vibrating

above

roofs

of tin

a salt lake

blooms

then crumbles

through

veins

* a-

luminate green

lights of eel move

shook

a long girl's chain of pale

breath unhooked

from

my clothing

3

hair from

levitating

sounds funny up

no

never before

no

stomach

melted

over the lift

she gives

me

juicy sporadic

tumbling

little commodi-

ties

waging motor riots

drums splash

neck

up

bang arm-

pits

her fingers drop

my nightgown in air

jingles

an expensive androgeny

going

completely fantastic

out of my attitude

a-

aaaaaaaagod

aaaaaaasleep

hahahahamburger

hunting

the hardware that listens

CODE was very close CODE

really is CODE distraught quite

human

he keeps CODE

losing herself

CODE

in the dream

actually

the sun has risen through

the

watercress clamoring in beserk colors & we're scattering

scattering

the rule of the lake

with multiple arms

John Levy:

In Miami

Grandma confessed sometimes it's hard to look sweet 16 at 80

who looks, she had said, when I'd asked about the ocean view

Other Publications
Davies 68 Downer Ave.
Dorchester Mass. 02125



Alan Davies 44 Glamongan Druin Sherwood Park, Albertan Canada