

WEST STREET GALLERY

395 WEST ST. #2

NY, NY

10014

West Street Gallery is proud to present a collection of New York based artist Asher Penn's artist books produced between 2004 to present.

Just Say Maybe, Penn's first self published book, was conceived as a catalog for his senior photography show at the Rhode Island School of Design in 2004. Since then, he has produced numerous volumes that have documented, framed, and expanded upon his explorations in photography, drawing, painting, collage, appropriation, and writing.

Penn uses the structural elements of graphic design inherent in bookmaking to create a personalized context for his artworks. These books demonstrate Penn's iterative practice of filling books with variations of a single gesture. Often, from book to book, the artist will revisit subject matter and themes, complicating, undermining, or editorializing them.

Despite his multiplicity of approaches, Penn insists that the root of his books is always "photographic." His book making practice seeks to explore the symbiotic relationship between photography and bookmaking, and discover a spirit of photography that exists beyond limitations of the medium. This is done while reflecting experiences, objects, and images present in daily life.

Along with 30 of Penn's books, the reading room will also include related multiples and ephemera.

This room will remain open during our regular business hours, Thurs.-Sat, 12-6 PM.