

Basic Detail Report



Souvenir

Date

1972

Primary Maker

Jasper Johns

Medium

lithograph

Description

This lithograph is based on the painted assemblage, *Souvenir*, done in Japan in 1964. The original work's iconography is complex and autobiographical. It incorporates an actual plate with a transferred photograph of the artist, purchased by Johns as a souvenir of his Asian visit, a real flashlight that he had once wanted to cast in bronze, a real bicycle mirror, and the depiction

of two paintings leaning against and facing each other. In the lithograph, although the integrity of the individual canvases is obscured, the other translations of assemblage remain. In both painted and graphic forms, red, yellow, and blue are spelled out around the plate. This linguistic device, used by Johns more than once as a substitute for actual color, challenges the viewer to intellectualize, rather than visualize, the three primary colors that comprise painting's fundamental palette. Both *Souvenir* the painting and *Souvenir* the lithograph fuse memory and artistic vision and have been exhaustively interp

Dimensions

Sheet: 38 1/4 x 29 1/8 in. (97.2 x 74 cm) Framed: 40 1/4 x 30 1/4 x 1 in. (102.2 x 76.8 x 2.5 cm)