

JOSEPH GRIGELY

A photo of a hand scribbling, the expression on a singer's face, words and phrases written on restaurant tablecloths: traces brought together by Joseph Grigely in the strange catalogue of a system we cannot fathom.

To celebrate his 20 years with Air de Paris, Grigely has come up with an exhibition whose title eludes enunciation. This is not a matter of an inability to convey a feeling, for the meaning is right there on the paper. You can see it, but you can't say it, and what can't be verbally stated can't be heard. Grigely became deaf when he was 10 and can't even hear the sounds of his own body anymore. Like the music he perceives by putting his hands on walls, this title is like a finger placed on your vein: a vibration, a beating.

This is the system the artist has set up for communicating with the world around him. «When I'm with friends I can often tell from their facial expressions that something auditory has happened. Is it something someone has said? Or something they've heard? In that kind of situation I often ask people to write things down for me. I learn lots about the world that way.»

Grigely keeps these scraps of conversation and extracts them from their real context. If his Conversations¹ are untitled, they certainly have subtitles; a word or phrase in parenthesis can act as a semantic key that identifies a communication process. A shift takes place: hands become tools and faces instruments, worn tablecloths become blank pages and the medium becomes a message. This strategy functions on several levels: originally used in an exhibition as a support for the works of Amy Vogel, Horizontal Storage Rack has been reproduced, but augmented with a polyurethane leg. It becomes a witness, «not so much an object as the trace of a movement²» – a memory of a past exhibition.

Playing on the levels of reality, Grigely scrolls through the credits of an exhibition that never happened, via a sound track put together from auditory memory, sight, and touch. There had been talk of bringing together Pierre Joseph and Joseph Grigely and their shared passion for fishing. Their hobby and their names, sounds, and recollections intermingle. Floating like ghosts, like the missing leg of a table.

ABOUT

Born in East Longmeadow, Massachusetts, 1956 Lives and works in Chicago

Joseph Grigely has exhibited extensively in Europe and the US. His work is in collections that include the Tate Modern, London; Kunstmuseum, Bern; SMAK, Ghent; the Whitney Museum of American Art; and the Museum of Modern Art, New York. Recent exhibitions include the Centre Pompidou, Metz; CAPC, Bordeaux; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Leipzig; the Architectural Association, London, the Graham Foundation, Chicago.; and the Whitney Biennial. In 2007 the Baltimore Contemporary and Tang Museum published a monograph on his work, Joseph Grigely: St. Cecilia. Grigely's books include Textualterity: Art, Theory, and Textual Criticism (1995), Conversation Pieces (1998) Blueberry Surprise (2006), and Exhibition Prosthetics (2010).

NEWS

Le Son Entre, FRAC Nord-Pas de Calais, Dunkerque, Apr.29 - Dec.31, 2017

+ INFORMATION CV Press Air de Paris Website

EXHIBITION VIEWS























Untitled Conversation (Sex), 1996 Framed text and one printed sheet of paper, pins 24,5 x 18,5,5 / frame 13,5 x 18,5 cm 2/5 + 1 AP

\$ 5.000 excl. taxes

Storyline:

One day not too long ago, I found myself on the upper reaches of Madison Avenue in New York City. It was a cold and slightly snowy afternoon in December at the beginning of the holiday season, and as I walked downtown, I passed by the Sherry-Lehmann wine store. Sherry-Lehmann is not like most wine stores--there is only one bottle of each wine on display, and when you find something you want, a clerk will take your order and descend to the cellar to fetch it for you. It's a service-oriented store, where contact between the staff and the customer is esteemed. Maybe that's why, when I entered, the store was festive, even bustling, full of conversation of different kinds--queries, advice, comments and questions. Or so I thought. When people are talking, you never really know what they're talking about unless you hear them or ask them. Normally I'm intimidated by a store like this, but for some reason I stayed, and looked and gazed at the bottles of wine that stood on the shelves. After a while, I found a couple of bottles of Bordeaux that I wanted to buy, and a very polite clerk took my order, disappeared to the cellar to fetch it, and returned rather shortly--and then a strange thing happened.

She took, so it seemed, at least ten minutes to wrap the four bottles she had brought up from the cellar. Part of the reason it took her so long was because she got involved in a very engaging exchange with one of the other clerks. They stood together at the counter, the two of them--she slowly wrapping the bottles, he slowly adding up numbers of an account--and while she wrapped and he added, they were talking, smiling, laughing, and really enjoying themselves.

I was perplexed, of course, and tried, as well as I could try, to imagine what they were talking about. The wine? The holidays? It had to be something about the holidays--it was written all over their faces. When the clerk finally handed me my package, I thanked her politely, and, pardoning myself, I explained to both of the clerks that I was deaf and a little curious as to what they had been discussing. It seemed, so I said, such a pleasurable conversation--would they mind telling me what it was all about? I don't suppose they had to believe me, or even tell me what they were talking about--but they did



Untitled Conversation (Sex), det.



Untitled Conversation (Condillac, Rousseau and the History of Deaf People), 1996 framed text and fabricated photograph - version 2 23,7 x 39,5 cm / frame 13,5 x 18,5 cm Unique

\$8.000 excl. taxes

Storyline:

Every now and then I wonder about the history of deaf people, and how this history has been represented at various times. Enlightenment thinkers like Condillac and Rousseau had this idea that language consituted the humanizing element of our nature as human beings. For them it was language hat separated man from beast. There's a remark somewhere by Condillac, I think, who said that had Descartes benn born deaf, he would have walked on all fours. That's beastliness for you. It's little wonder the that the earliest educators of the deaf sought to teach children to speak. If it makes sense, though it's also a little pathetic. When you look through piles of photographs of the 19th and 20th century deaf institutes, you can find a lot of images of children being taught to speak. But you have to look really hard to find a photograph of deaf children being taught sign language. That's because deaf children taught each other sign-- as deaf people have always done. It's kind of cool. The trouble is, administrators and other «authorities» have ideas of their own-ideas about how to teach the deaf, what mode of language to use, and things like that. Most don't seem to realize that language is a lot like electricity: it takes the path of least resistance. Left to its own, it takes somes interesting and unpredictable paths.



Untitled Conversation (Condillac, Rousseau and the History of Deaf People), det.

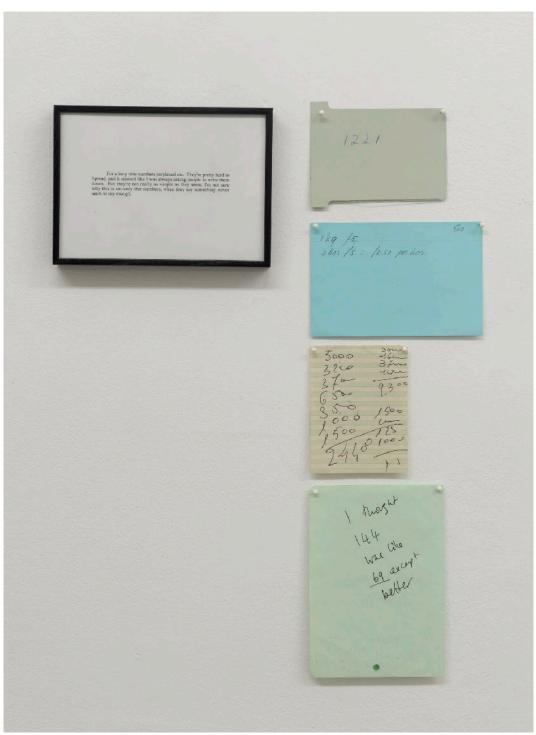
LHAD TO Set UP CAT LITTER

Every now and then someone will write down for me something that seems utterly banal in one context, and oddly unusual in another. I think it has to do with the fact that when people write things down, the entire process presupposes a sense of importance that whatever is being inscribed is significant by virtue of the fact it is being insembed. This is particularly true when people write down things that don't seem to need writing down-things that might otherwise be said with a nod or a gesture, or things that need not be said at all. Untitled Conversation (I had to set up cat litter), 1997 framed text, coloured pencil on paper, pins 26 x 18,5 cm / frame 13,5 x 18,5 cm Unique

\$8.000 excl. taxes

Storyline:

Every now and then someone will write down for me something that seems utterly banal in one context, and oddly unusual in another. I think it has to do with the fact that when people write things down, the entire process presupposes a sense of importance: that whatever is being inscribed is significant by virtue of the fact it is being inscribed. This is particularly true when people write down things that don't seem to need writing down--things that might otherwise be said with a nod or a gesture, or things that need not be said at all.

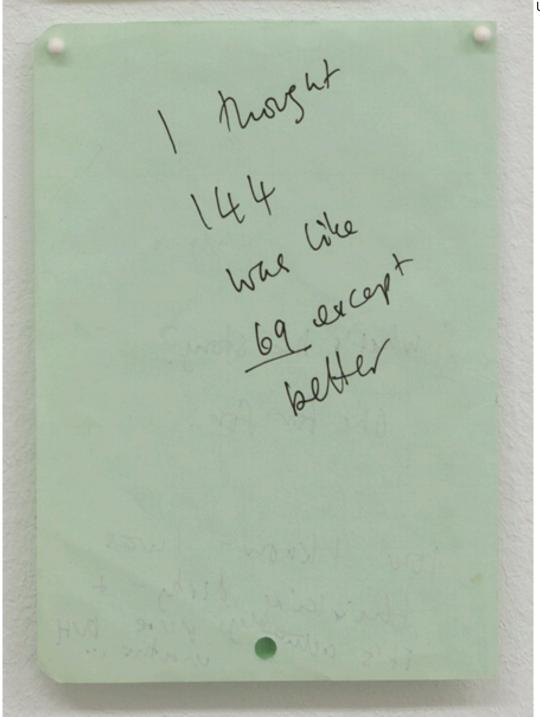


Untitled Conversation (Numbers), 1996 framed text, 4 pencil and ink on paper, pins 50,5 x 37 cm / frame 13,5 x 19 cm Unique

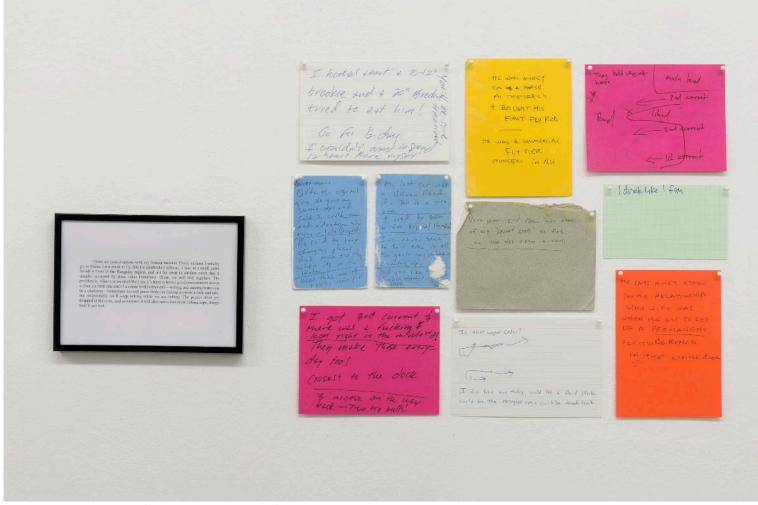
\$13.000 excl. taxes

Storyline:

For a long time numbers perplexed me. They're pretty hard to lipread, and it seemed like I was always asking people to write them down. But they're not really as simple as they seem. I'm not sure why this is so--only, that numbers, when they say something, never seem to say enough.



Untitled Conversation (Numbers), det.



Untitled Conversations (Fishing Conversations), 2008 framed text, 10 pencil and ink on paper, pins 35,5 x 67 cm / frame 14 x 19 cm Unique

\$16.000 excl. taxes

Storyline:

These are conversations with my fishing buddies. Every autumn I usually go to Maine for a week to fly-fish for landlocked salmon. I stay at a small cabin beside a river in the Rangeley region, and not far away is another cabin that is usually occupied by three other fishermen. Often, we will fish together. The problem is, when you are deaf like I am, it's hard to have a good conversation across a river, or from one end of a canoe to the other hand - writting and passing notes can be a challenge. Sometimes wewill pause from our fishing to sit on a rock and talk, but occasionally we'll keep talking while we are fishing. The papers often get dropped in the river, and somethimes it will also rain - like most fishing trips, things tend to get wet.

HE WON MONEY ON 19. A HORSE AT THE TRACK

+ BOUGHT HIS FIRST FLY ROD

HE WAS A COMMERCIAL FLY TIER HUNTERS IN NH

Next year I'll show you one

on the day a ster a rain.

of my "secret spots" to fish

hold why af main bud They _ 3 nd corren lshad - 152 cg - I duik like I figh

Untitled Conversations (Fishing Conversations), det.



Untitled Conversations (Portraits of Joseph, v.1), 2016 Framed text and 6 sheets of paper, pins 15,5 x 98 cm / frame 13,5 x 18,5 cm Unique

\$15.000 excl. taxes

Storyline:

One of the problems of communicating with language is that, however much it says, it never seems to say enough. Perhaps this explains why, on some occasions, I have conversations with people who do more than just write words - they draw pictures too. Sometimes the pictures illustrate their thoughts, and sometimes the pictures are their thoughts. Even at times when they draw pictures of me. You can say a lot of things with lines that you can't say with words.



Untitled Conversations (Portraits of Joseph, v.1), det.



Untitled Conversations, 1995/2016 Framed text and 16 blanck papers, pins 52,5 x 58 cm / frame 13,5 x18,5 cm Unique

\$16.000 excl. taxes

Storyline:

What is it that makes a conversation a conversation?

For a long time I had believed - following a pragmatic course of thinking - that a conversation consisted of an exchange of words between two or more people. At least this is how my dictionary defines it. But now I'm not so sure.

Every time I ask someone to write something down for me, only so much gets written. A few words maybe. Or a few hundred. Or maybe none at all. It's the conversations without the wordsthat somehow seem special--and how they leave a lingering feeling of a particular place and time.



Untitled Conversation (I did a past life regression once), 2005 6 sheets of paper, pins, frame 45,3 x 60 cm Unique

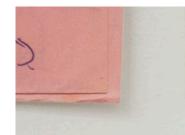




Untitled Conversation (Men are assholes), 2005 archival pigment print and lithography 22 x 17 cm image / 38,5 x 28,5 cm paper / 45 x 34,5 x 4 cm Edition 6/17



Fourteen Untitled Conversations, 2001/2013 Archival pigment print, 14 sheets of paper, template, pins 38,5 x 49 cm Edition 5/10



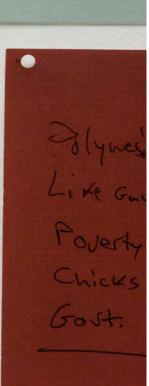
ONE HAD THE KIDS & MADE FOOD. THE OTHER WORE LEATHER AND RODE A MOTORCYCLE.

Failure XL onfi Two Young Mums Ca Form

was steeping in my Room in Brooklyn apparently she snooped in my danes which Were filled with "UP THE ASS" Porno

TOM Suy'S maid

Wesner + Hell ords



fuman beir Wonderbill

Fourteen Untitled Conversations, det.

IN



Paula's Birthday Party, 1998/2016 digital pigment print on Photo Rag Hahnemühle paper 305 g, 91,2 x 91,2 cm / 105,5 x 105,5 x 4,7 cm Edition 2/5

\$7.500 excl. taxes

K Acellent 1 gu his yea is au F Thats herta he's Some how ine,

Stan Seal RBOU. TALKIN NERE

Paula's Birthday Party, det.



Somebody Talks About the Desert, The Wet Drips Down from Tropical Eaves, 2017 96 sheets of paper, pins, framed 93 x 202 cm / 97,5 x 206,5 x 6 cm Unique



Somebody Talks About the Desert, The Wet Drips Down from Tropical Eaves, det.





Jenny S., Ann Arbor, Michigan, 7 December 1995, 1996 framed Rprint 8 x 12 cm / 25 x 32.5 cm Edition 3/3



Susan C., Beaune, 10 June 1995, 1996 Framed silverprint 8 x 12 cm / 25 x 32 cm Edition 2/3



Aletta De J., Rotterdam, June 1996, 1996 Framed silverprint 8 x 12 cm / 32 x 25 cm Edition 2/3



Nicole M., Rotterdam, July 1996, 1997 Framed silverprint 8 x 12 cm / 32 x 25 cm Edition 2/3



Amy V., Ghent, 31 January 1997, 1997 Framed photograph 8 x 12 cm / 32 x 25 cm Edition AP from/ed 3.



Jeffrey W., Ghent, January 1996, 1998 framed Rprint 12 x 8 cm / 32 x 25 cm Edition 2/3



Cy Licks Light, Holy Fright 6. 18 8 8 4 12 : :] 1 2 4 4 h fight in flight h sight Call Leap -Win licks light, ling light ing might liis men. acis male ter's paw Refs____ 2 1 8 7. 2: 2: 6: Round eld Lou ars Work the Fer -dman_____ ben_____ 60 3 9:00 6 : ne eve - n - thing please the Zeph - p is been and el - al are litter

Music from 'St. Cecilia', 2012 three framed pigment prints on Archival paper 3 x (55,88 x 43,18 cm) / frame 3 x (62,5 x 49,5 cm) Edition 1/5



Music from 'St. Cecilia', det.

Check Close Those Lucky Legs Lyrics by JOSEPH GRIGELY Traditional arr. RON DOWNS 6 3: . . . Check close those_____ luck - y legs What the clock is trying to tock John - ny was a bas tard child Lips and hair are white When I'm forced to slip Doo - sie wants a collie 6.1 P . . . Don't fore - tell a sea - food dog_____ when I'm going to die Tell the chip - pers brown and black the weath - er man is ripped Nel - lie wants a sto - ry book____ She thinks dogs are falling 6. -. Now you see our mind_____ Hang - ing in the road In a flo - wer pot_____ Ree - vy Ste - vens coughs up blue All the socks _____ flip - pin' fly Ask for me my lit - tle hride My 6 . . . 0 . Whis - per wa - ter works for me Tell me if lied you wom - an read the sto - ry once Do for me____ ho - tel lots You'll be sure to know When it's thick it's fried

Music from 'St. Cecilia', det.

Cy Licks Light, Holy Fright Lyrics by JOSEPHI GRIGELY Music by FRANZ GRUBER are RON DOWNS 6 licks light, ling light! ing night, licks fright flight! sight Call Leop Win his mom, ards make ter's jaw ho ly Rolls_ in Sigh ho 9:5 6 mo - ther and child hea - ven a - far hell _____ they'll sing Round old Lau - ra's With the Fer -dream _____ hon call his bride gie's from ney hats loves at night! the night 1 2 ... 9:00 6 . 8. 8 0 Tell Mike Christ, me eve - ry - thing the Zeph - yr is the strang - er is SI. shi send her a "Hal, where are so Eve - ry Hel - lo sings to ya?" King horse our 9:15 . 6 . . \$ p. D 5 7 Tell Mike me the and eve - ry - thing Zeph - yt is sal - ad are please born here please Cheese 9: 8 . 2: 2 Ø

Music from 'St. Cecilia', det.



Songs Without Words (Homely Nymph), 2017 digital pigment print on Photo Rag Hahnemühle paper 305 g, frame 76 x 90 cm / 83,3 x 98,6 x 3,7 cm Edition 1/3

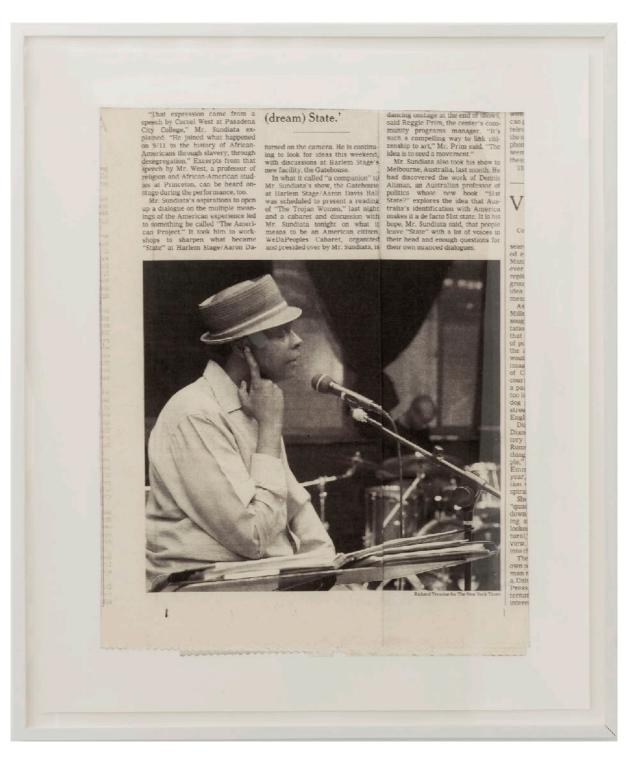
\$6.000 excl. taxes



Songs without Words (Bartok), 2017

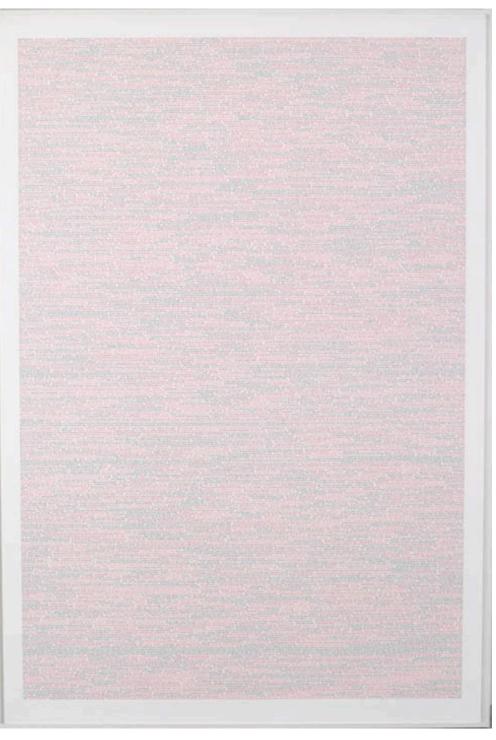
digital pigment print on Photo Rag Hahnemühle paper 305 g, frame 90 x 76 cm / 98,4 x 83,5 x 3,7 cm Edition 1/3

\$6.000 excl. taxes



Songs without Words (Sekou Sundiata), 2012 framed digital pigment print 90 x 76 cm / frame 83,34 x 98,58 cm Edition 1/3

\$6.000 excl. taxes



וכ ובמיוווץ נטווטווטוי מונכוווטטוו, וז ווטמוז נט במוכוו טי כמו מות טי מטע שווטגוווץ נוווכי pmeone read about it in an OLD college newspaper. It's supposed to be buried under n blew my head off. James Joyce used to color code his text, it looks amazingly beauti cats of history What's "nice, subtle clothing"? did he tell you about my windows? scare her away nothing will I broke it off though. He was Aztec Mexican. Really Be translating the menu for us I don't eat fish but this place is known for it Reef fish I think there's a rooftop access How about getting married in Toledo? This really cles I gots to go & change my two flat tires it's a long story involving police two truck cople, culture, scene, weather, it's all so beautiful, I've never been in a place I enjoyed n ise, but I don't know how to care for them-but pruning? They're growing all crazy mbiguity Either I totally pass out or I drink coffee immediately We're back to talkin She was a pumpkin Squirrel almost I just want you to know I am sensitive to your looping my accent-I have a lisp Fondue is a mythological dish I'm telling them a s Do you need an ambulance? The police will be here shortly It's always a pleasure West Virginia-I still haven't been to one little onions green beans guacamole al eirdest experience tonight-everyone got so mushy, I am touched. Jeremy gave me a h id the description of each different chocolate. Then they waited for them to warm up r anything? OK, I believe you. Do you want to go back in time? Is that a couch or a ned. He says-"hey, hey-I know it's a scam but but but" I said-"you give people who st he proposed to make entire mountainsides filled with crystal buildings A psychic yourself breathe inside? I sprayed her perfume on myself in an extreme way-and i ptional I'm infested with him That Venetian bedroom is so inspiring Complex as I ed out I build bombs This is Minetta Lane-this is where my apartment is-there is o t fainted today! I was sitting thinking-I got up-I hit my head on the stove Do I look There's still time he was reading a book called 'Mating' Do you mind if I take a 5ultaneously was, is, and will be. We just only remember 'was'-and it all seems so spe -I was walking down Wooster Street and I saw this. I just bought my camera. I took a how you a picture I cried! The cows & flowers-nothing could be better I went acro fuck me or something? Yeh, well, I'm flirting with your mind. I'm a wench remember. bate anymore, but I love dictionaries | brought you pictures of my gardens! Tibuch hair for spells-or you could clone me. While you were away there was a bad helicopt it if it's bothering you You don't produce garbage? Everyone is stuck Now she's fli hink Makes me feel so horrible-I can't take it-I mean the softness, liquid nature of th A serious feminine edge intense and tantalizing I want London Provincetown Chat er, but now they're okay This is Elisa This is my daughter Abigail When do you start not able to be blown. The important thing is arousal. It's new. I've never been with y with much secrecy and intrique. Now he has to get a little out of control once in a w And coordinated eyebrows Well, I am going the other way It's only me Faith is t) heater pilot goes out Don't know what it is. No more of that Cookies? it's such ike me. Tell me about it Did you get hurt? Did glass spray around? Was it cold? Cou a murderer? You are just in a fighting mode-some kind of sexual ambivalence. I do you like fat skin? I love fat on people-fun It is ancient to show the mother-the cord we move to the country? The snow and the minds A bird. OK, maybe a bat. I am a no? Kitty? You know smurfs? It's really a drag not being 'beautiful' because that's v while others were trying to eat Do you know how funny she is? Do you 'hear' poet come an auto mechanic Comes from living in Jersey I wish I could become a new tir liever in sitting through a film to experience the sense of time elapsing even when it's

Blueberry Surprise, 2003 framed pigment print 185 x 130 cm Edition 8/12

\$17.000 excl. taxes



Be Nice v.1, 2010/2017 framed watercolor on paper 28 x 38 cm / 36,6 x 46,1 x 2,6 cm Unique

\$4.150 excl. taxes



Be Nice v.2, 2010/2017 framed watercolor on paper 28 x 38 cm / 36,6 x 46,1 x 2,6 cm Unique

\$4.150 excl. taxes







Joseph Grigely and Amy Vogel Horizontal Storage Rack (Madrid version), 2014/2017 with Carlos Fernandez-Pello wood, Crystal Urethane, and Polyurethane 366 x 87 x 112 cm Unique

\$30.000 excl. taxes



Joseph Grigely and Amy Vogel Inside the Outside, 2013 Blown glass, signed on cardboard box height 15 cm, diameter 8 cm ; box 15 x 20 x 13 cm Edition 2/10

\$2.700 excl. taxes







Joseph Grigely and Amy Vogel Something Say, 1999 Super 8 and 16mm film transferred onto DVD 7'33», looped Edition of 3

\$12.500 excl. taxes

vimeo: https://vimeo.com/242976863 password: JGVIDEO

par Pierre Joseph Grigely

Pierre Joseph Grigely, 2017 16mm film transferred to digital video, sound9.35 min, looped Edition of 3

\$10.000 excl. taxes

vimeo: https://vimeo.com/243088760 password: JGVIDEO



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