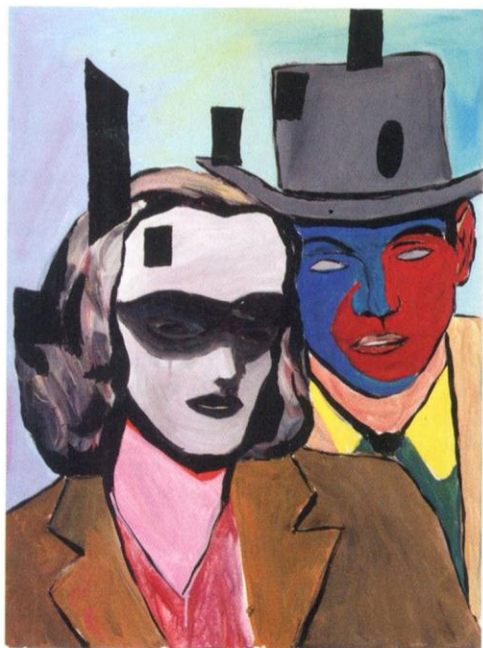


# Contents 1



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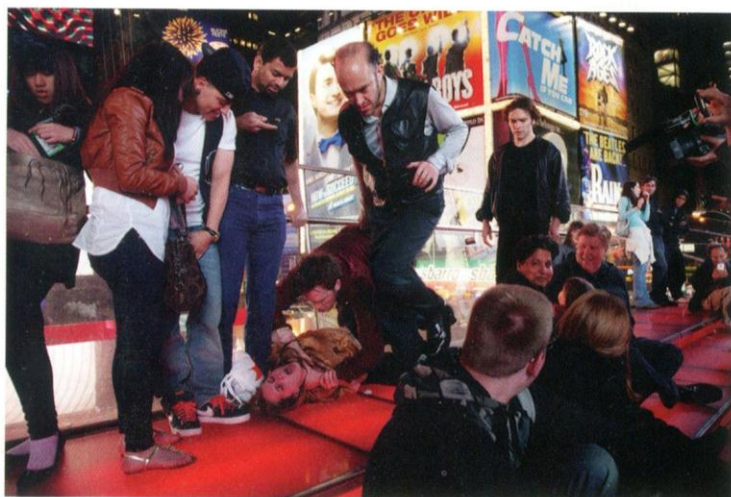
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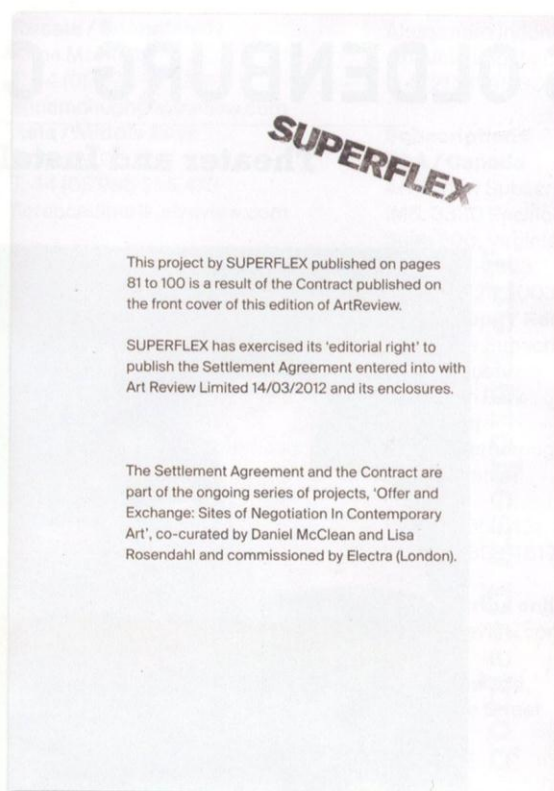
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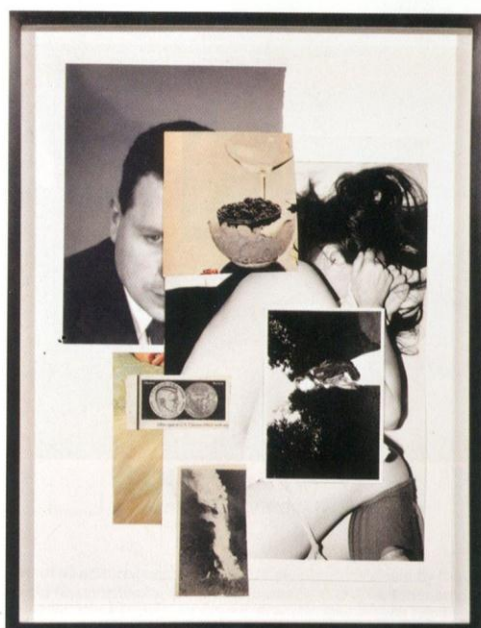
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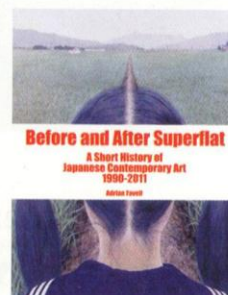
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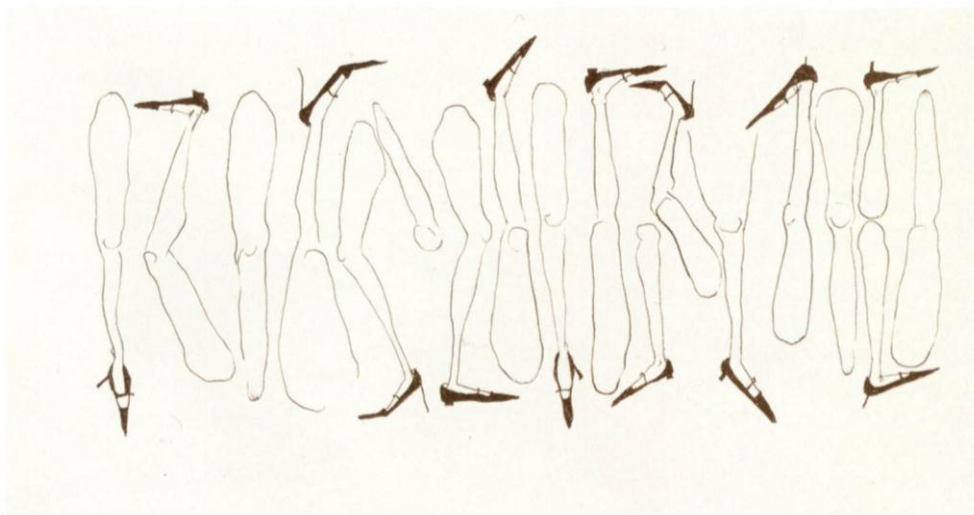
# Martin Herbert

**Ecstatic Alphabets/Heaps of Language**, MoMA, New York, 6 May – 27 August, [www.moma.org](http://www.moma.org) / **Andy Hope 1930**, Hauser & Wirth, London, 19 April – 26 May, [www.hauserwirth.com](http://www.hauserwirth.com) / **Fiona Rae**, Leeds Art Gallery, 11 May – 26 August, [www.leeds.gov.uk/artgallery](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/artgallery) / **René Daniëls**, Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, 12 May – 23 September, [www.vanabbemuseum.nl](http://www.vanabbemuseum.nl) / **Alessandro Roma**, Brand New Gallery, Milan, to 24 May, [www.brandnew-gallery.com](http://www.brandnew-gallery.com) / **Klara Kristalova**, Bonniers Konsthall, to 29 July, [www.bonnierskonsthall.se](http://www.bonnierskonsthall.se) / **Rita McBride**, MACBA, Barcelona, 19 May – 24 Sept, [www.macba.cat](http://www.macba.cat) / **Dak'Art 2012**, Dakar, 11 May – 10 June, [www.biennaledakar.org](http://www.biennaledakar.org) / **11th Havana Biennial**, 11 May – 11 June, [www.bienalhabana.cult.cu](http://www.bienalhabana.cult.cu) / **Friedrich Kunath**, BQ, Berlin, 28 April – 30 June, [www.bqberlin.de](http://www.bqberlin.de)

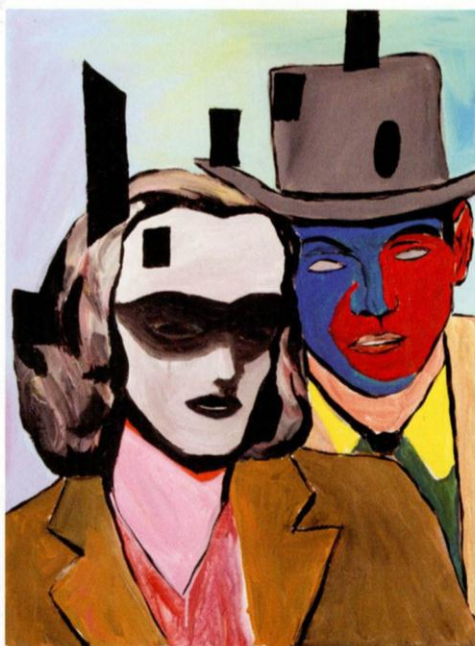
# Now SEE This

**E**cstatic Alphabets/Heaps of Language has a buoyant title and advance publicity that highlights Tauba Auerbach's sparkling, Jasper Johns-updating 2006 gouache *The Whole Alphabet, From the Center Out, Digital V* (a polychromatic nesting of straight lines from which single colours can be isolated to reveal every letter in turn); it will likely also include a pulsing Bruce Nauman neon text. So MoMA curator Laura Hoptman's 12-artist consideration of art and (the materiality of) language may not be a wholly sombre, buttoned-down affair. The box marked 'Duchamp' gets ticked, and guest spots are reserved for Filippo Tommaso Marinetti, Lawrence Weiner and Henri Chopin, before Hoptman thumps the carriage return, starts a new paragraph in the present day and brings on Shannon Ebner, Sharon Hayes, Karl Holmqvist, Dexter Sinister (who've produced a giveaway book) and more. Bring bifocals, and maybe also shades.

When Andreas Hofer made paintings, the linguistic element used to be the signature **Andy Hope 1930**. Since 2010, that's the name the German artist goes by, but the past his name suggests he lives in is an ex post facto construct, welding cultural incommensurables with quietly cautionary intent. Recent paintings, installations and performances have invoked one 'Robin Dostoyevsky', a sidekick for Batman whose costumes harmonise spandex and nineteenth-century Russian womenswear; the '1930', meanwhile, mordantly references a grim hinge moment in German history and the birth of the superhero comic in America. Conflating Superman and *übermensch*, Hope boils the last century or so down to a striving for surpassing greatness that sometimes had disastrous outcomes. Here his *X-Medley* paintings (all 2012) remix the artist's own artistic past, alongside a remake of *Batman Gallery* (2004), an architectural model of the superhero's cape that serves as a housing for canvases.



**Anna Gaskell**  
(see *Ecstatic Alphabets...*)  
**Anagram**, 2003, 31 x 55 cm,  
Museum of Modern Art, New York,  
Judith Rothschild Foundation  
Contemporary Drawings Collection  
Gift. © 2012 the artist



**Andy Hope 1930**  
**X-Medley 2**, 2012, acrylic and  
lacquer on canvasboard,  
80 x 60 cm. Photo: Roman März.  
© the artist. Courtesy the artist  
and Hauser & Wirth, London,  
New York and Zurich