

EXHIBITIONS / BOOKS

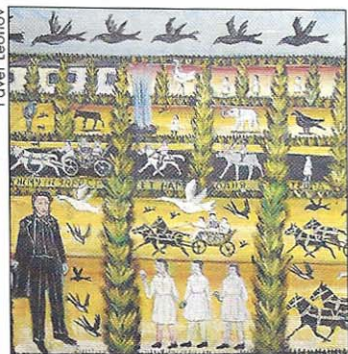
RAWREVIEWS



Henry Darger. Highlights from the American Folk Art Museum, The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, February 5 – May 7, 2006.

A Henry Darger exhibit at the Warhol seems appropriate. After all, it could be debated Darger (1892-1973) was a proto-Pop artist, appropriating many images from mass-media sources. Approximately fifty creations, an annex exploring his creative methods and one bound volume of his 15,000-page novel, *The Story of the Vivian Girls...* telling of his spunky, prepubescent heroines who fought the 'Glandelinians,' an army of mustachioed men is present. A characteristic creation is *We Will Slam Them With Our Wings*, featuring a gaggle of blonde girls loitering in a surreal landscape of palm trees, cacti and massive flowers composed of watercolour, carbon tracing and collage.

Gregory M. Knepp



Figures de l'Art brut russe (Russian Art Brut), Galerie Objet Trouvé, Paris, February 24 – April 1, 2006.

Built around a selection of about 40 naïve pseudo-soviet self-portraits by Alexander Lobanov (1924-2003), the schizophrenic master from Yaroslavl obsessed with rifles, this rare show presented two generations of Russian self-taught artists: wonderful paintings by the 'brut' naïve Pavel Leonov (1920-, see RV# 28) depicting scenes from Pouchkine's life in his inimitable poetical division of space mixing human beings, vehicles and flying birds, delicate obsessive icons from the cabinet-maker and gardener Vasilij Romanenkov (1953-) and a series of handmade posters of female 'Beauties' by another Yaroslavl inmate, Nicolai Vorobiov 'Almazov' ('made in diamond') (1958-).

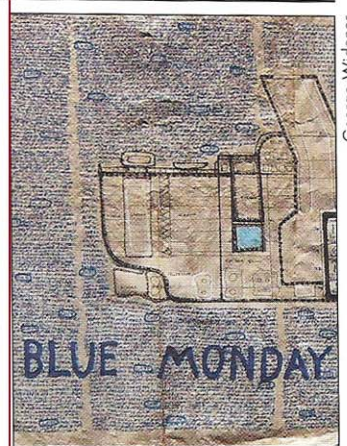
Laurent Danchin



Janko Domsic & Zdenek Kosek, créateurs du ciel et de la terre, abcd la galerie, Montreuil, France. November 5, 2005 – April 24, 2006.

Janko Domsic (1915-1983, see *L'Art Brut #16*, 1990, for a 1979 interview with Alain Bourbonnais) was one of the highlights of the previous show at abcd last Spring. Since then the abcd Collection has acquired a series of new stunning big formats by this free-mason Croatian immigrant who made his esoteric drawings with ruler and compass at the table of a Parisian bar and mixed obsessive litanies of words with his figurations of BOG (God) and of himself. Compared to these masterpieces of art brut, the cryptic diagrams by the 'master of weather' Zdenek Kosek appeared almost weak, although the author himself is fascinating.

Laurent Danchin



Inner Landscapes: Outsider & Visionary Art.

Plymouth Arts Centre, U.K.
April 26 – June, 2006.

This exciting and varied show, the first of its kind in this part of the country, includes classic Outsiders Darger, Lesage, Monsiel, Madge Gill and Scottie Wilson along with more recent discoveries such as Nick Blinko, Vonn Ströpp, Malcolm McKesson and savant George Widener. Amongst the 'visionary' classification the 'Resurrection' drawings of Donald Pass were particularly noteworthy, reminiscent of both Blake and Palmer, and the exquisite, meticulously painted oils by Julian Brain and Wonshondro Buam were fascinating new experiences.

Ray Vixer