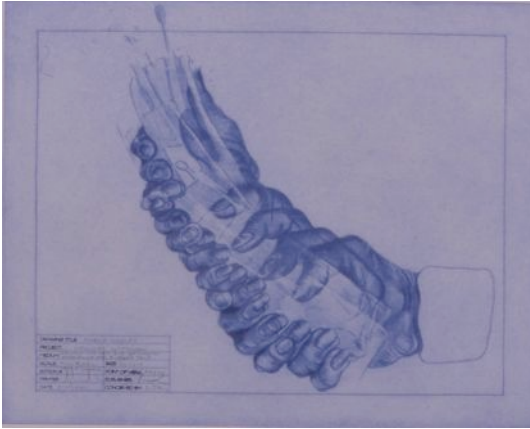


Art On Paper

September/October 2001



E. V. Day, *Cellular Communion* (2001) (fig. 14), a series of three etchings with hard and soft ground, aquatint, spitbite, drypoint, rubberstamp, and pencil in an edition of 25 plus six artist's and three printer's proofs. Each measures 20x24 in. or 24x20 in. (paper) and 16x20 in. or 20x16 in. (plate) and was printed on Somerset white textured paper by Gregory Burnet at Burnet Editions, New York. E.V. Day loves the look of a blueprint and actually used the medium in her last set of prints (*Anatomy of Hugh Hefner's Private Jet*, 2000, AOP 4/5, p. 67). This time around, however, she decided instead to make some etchings that resemble blueprints, which she achieved in a most complicated fashion with Greg Burnet, who never fails, it seems, to make a great print. Anyone who has ever been driven nuts by a cellular phone will adore this series: each is a

sexual pun on the gadget we most love to hate. In "Mobile Mastury," the illusion of a freeze-frame shows a hand frantically masturbating the equipment; in "Spitbite," the keypad is lodged in the jaw of one X-rayed skull and spat or ejaculated, one is meant to assume, into the mouth of another; in "Twin Towers—Double Fisted—2001" two hands firmly grip two phones elongated to resemble New York's famous downtown landmark. Day is quite frank about her endeavor: "In this image," she writes of "Spitbite," "the cell phone's keypad is an arrangement of taste buds. To swallow one's tongue in the figurative sense is to hold back emotion. On the other hand, to indulge in the act of relaxing the throat canal during fellatio is succumbing to desire." Okay. Yet the prints are cool and analytical as a . . . well, as a blueprint; each bears its specs in a corner, with lots of little jokes hand-written in pencil next to the category: drawing title, project, medium, scale, etc. You'll want to pick this one up. Price: \$2,400. A few sets have been broken up to sell individually for \$900. Published by Carolina Nitsch, New York.