Raymond Hains
"Raymond la science"
"Raymond l'abstrait"
Galerie Max Hetzler
10.10. – 14.11.2015

How, contra Steyerl, to be seen, even when you're gone? Across three galleries (one in Paris) this dispersed mini-retrospective perpetuated that sporadic but happy tradition of featuring an artist whose work you feel uneasy for barely knowing – Hains Affichiste, right? Half-right: Hains (1926–2005) began as a key member of the French

mouvement maisons réalistes

movement but outgrew it and became somewhat unclassifiable. Here were torn-billboard classics, sardonic Pop reliefs, gnomic darkroom experiments, disornted neo-Surrealist photographs shot through textured glass, mute graphic light works, all flattered by Hetzler's chic hang. Thanks, market. Sometimes it feels like there is enough undiscovered past that the present could hit pause for a year or two. We'd be fine.

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