



**DAVID MACH (b. 1956)**

**Matchhead**

**(small blue)**

matchstick

5 1/2 x 2 3/4 x 3 3/4 in.

13.97 x 6.99 x 9.53 cm

c.1992

3707

**PROVENANCE:**

Heather James Fine Art, Palm Desert

David Mach was born in Scotland in 1956, and went on to study at the Duncan Jordanstone College of Art in Dundee, Scotland and the Royal College of Art, London. Since the launch of his career in the early 1980s, David Mach has achieved international acclaim as a celebrated sculptor and installation artist. In 1988, he was nominated for the prestigious Turner Prize. In 2000 Mach took a position as Professor of Sculpture at the Royal Academy of Arts and continues to develop his innovative style with public installations and performance art.

Assemblages of mass-produced found objects often form the basis of Mach's sculptures and installations, incorporating everything from magazines and newspapers to tires and teddy bears. Early in his career, Mach began creating representations of human and animal faces constructed out of matchsticks, with the colored match heads arranged so as to create the surface of the face. After accidentally igniting one such work, Mach will now sometimes ignite his matchstick sculptures as a sort of performance art. In addition to temporary installation pieces, Mach has recently produced permanent public works including a representation of a steam engine constructed out of 185,000 bricks near Darlington, Scotland. According to Mach, "an artist must be an ideasmonger responding to all kinds of physical locations, social and political environments, to materials, to processes, to timescales and budgets."

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