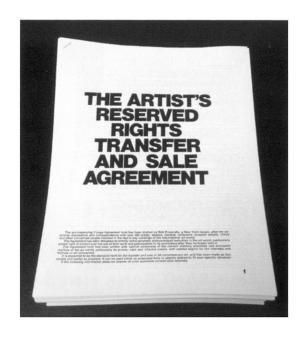
ARTAUCTION

Balancing the Books

As calls to address the issue of income inequality have moved from the tents of Occupy Wall Street to the New York Times bestseller list to President Barack Obama's State of the Union address, parallel concerns about out-of-whack economics are also beginning to find expression in the art world. With "The Contract," a less-than-flashy show this past winter, **Essex Street** gallery made clear the issue is anything but new. The show featured Wade Guyton, Hans Haacke, R.H. Quaytman, and a half-dozen others whose works were sold under the terms of a contract devised in 1971 by conceptual art dealer Seth Siegelaub that allowed artists to retain some control and financial interest in their work after a sale.



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