



LONDON A-Z

BY

TOBIAS TILL



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For years Tobias Till has set himself the challenge of portraying London's busy, multifaceted landscape through the more limited two-dimensional space of the artist's print. 'London A-Z' is his most ambitious response yet to the ever-changing city. In a project spanning all of 2011, he has created a box set of 27 limited edition linocuts showing different views of the capital; one for each letter of the alphabet, from the Albert Memorial to London Zoo.

The series plays with the idea of the A-Z map, but instead of a flat street plan, Till presents a colourful tableau of memorable views, knitted together through his distinctive pictorial style and recurring landmarks such as the London Eye, which appears in the background of several compositions. "I like the idea that a landmark that is shown from different positions in a number of prints sets up a dialogue between those images and gives an overall spatial impression of the city." In choosing the A-Z format, Till also looks back to London's artistic history, particularly William Nicholson's famous 1898 A-Z woodcut series of 'London Types' which looked not at places, but the familiar characters and faces that filled the city at the time.

Till condenses a medley of information into every view, using careful composition and a complex variety of colours (he hand carved a hundred separate linocut blocks for the project) to successfully convey the character and diversity of London's streets.

Tobias Till | London A-Z | Linocut on 250gsm Somerset satin paper | Limited edition of 75, signed and editioned | 2012 | 27.5 x 23.5 cm image size, 41.5 x 37.5 cm paper size

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