Melvin Edwards

B WIRE, BEWARE, ALL WAYS ART Steel, Paper & Paint

15 September - 21 October 2023

We are pleased to announce Melvin Edwards's second solo exhibition with Galerie Buchholz in Berlin. For this exhibition, Melvin Edwards produced new works on site at the gallery that include barbed wire (B wire, as the artist calls it), as well as chains in metal and wood.

Edwards began to use barbed wire and chains for his sculptural installations in the late 1960s. In 1970, he showed four of these works in an exhibition at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, the first solo exhibition by an African-American sculptor at that institution. In the new sculptures and installations shown at Galerie Buchholz, Melvin Edwards renegotiated motifs and formal strategies from this earlier time. Alongside these pieces, the artist presents a group of works on paper from 1974 and 1982.

Melvin Edwards (born 1937) lives and works in New York. Currently on view at Dia:Beacon is an extensive exhibition focused exclusively on Melvin Edwards's works with barbed wire and chains.