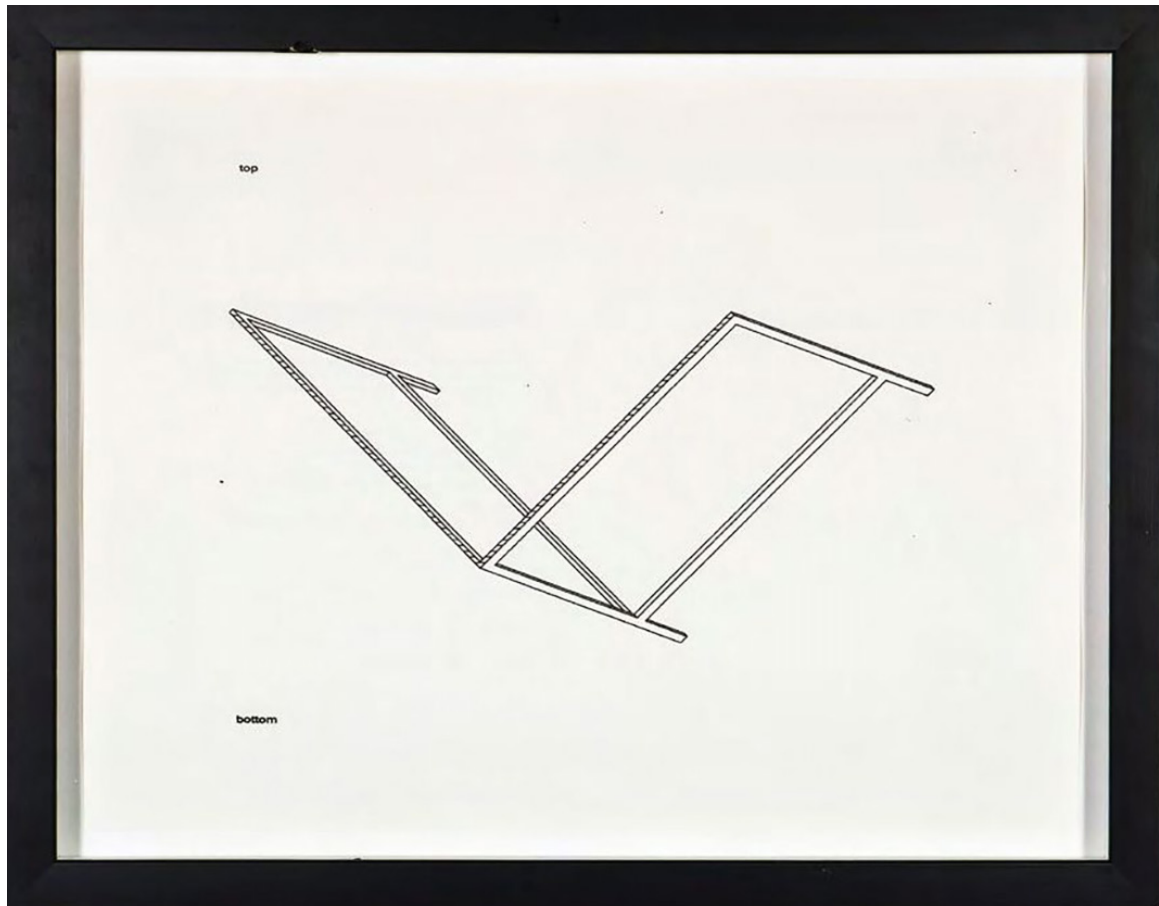


71 - STRUTTARE PER PARLA DE PIEDI



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In the entrance hall of the ICA in London last summer, I came across a framed print edition of [this] image accompanied by the following caption:

"Will Stuart, 'Strutturare per parla de piedi' [Trans. 'Structure for talking while standing'] (Michelangelo Pistoletto, 1965-66), 2009."

Being familiar with Pistoletto's original work, a sturdy minimalist 2 x 2 meter grey-painted iron frame, I spent some time trying to decode the various intertextual implications stemming from this apparently new work and its title. Mostly I was perplexed by the Italian part—a title within a title—which did not quite correspond to Pistoletto's original *Struttura per parlare in piedi*. Being (like the majority of the contemporary art community) hyper-sensitive to all forms of ambiguity, multi-layered meanings, meta-self-reflexivity and so forth, but (unlike the majority) fluent in Italian, I was uncertain whether this was a deliberate mistranslation or simply a couple of unfortunate typos. I could easily imagine that this sort of confusion and indecision on my part was precisely the effect intended.

The "new" clause *Strutturare per parla de piedi* could in fact be more accurately translated—with some oscillation of meaning—as, *Covering with lard in order to talk about feet*.

—"Surplus to Requirements," Francesco Manacorda, *Dot Dot Dot* #20, 2010

Will Stuart with Geoff Bailey (after Michelangelo Pistoletto), *Strutturare per parla de piedi*, 2010, digital print, 35.5 x 45 cm