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ART GALLERIES—DOWNTOWN

Robert Filliou

The Frenchman was an economist, a Buddhist, and a self-described “genius without talent,” who died in 1987, at the age of sixty-one. Filliou used to walk around Paris with little sculptures hidden under his cap, which he had labelled “Galerie Légitime.” That koan-like silliness crackles through the photographs, drawings, and documentation of his performances in this bracing show, though not everything translates. (A mock telegram reading “faim = fin de la faim,” which relates to the artist’s belief that his work lurked “somewhere between the hunger for the end and the end of hunger,” is one case in point.) Still, the show has an abundance of charmers, including “Collective Dance Poem by Chance,” in which two bicycle wheels generate random poetry when visitors spin them.