FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Body Language: Studies in Female Expression
A video program addressing gender issues, organized by Julie Zando

There will be a special premiere screening at Artists Space on Saturday, November 10th at 8pm presenting The Bus Stops Here, a recent collaboration by Jo Anstey and Julie Zando. This video explores the way in which sexual fulfillment for women, and access to language, is always secondary to male privilege. Admission $5 (students and seniors, $3)

Video Program: November 15, 1990 - January 5, 1991
Opening Reception: Thursday, November 15, 6-8pm
Gallery hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 11-6pm
The video program screens continuously in the video viewing room during gallery hours and includes:

The Bus Stops Here by Jo Anstey and Julie Zando, 27 minutes, 1990
La Grimoire Magnetique by Joelle de la Casiniere, 36 minutes, 1983
Identity Crisis by Mindy Faber, 3 minutes, 1989
Die Evidenz Des Kalkuels by Ilse Gassinger, 8 minutes, 1987
Exposed by Ilse Gassinger, 8 minutes, 1989
Prowling By Night by Gwendolyn, 12 minutes, 1990
Soma by Barbara Lattanzi, 1989
Kugelkopf by Mara Mattaschka, 6 minutes, 1985
The Headhunters of Borneo by Azian Nurudin
Am I My Mother's Keeper? by Sherry Kromer Shapiro, 4 minutes, 1989
We by Shelly Silver, 4 minutes, 1990
Laurie Sings Iggy by Leslie Singer, 4 minutes, 1987

Body Language: Studies in Female Expression is a program of videotapes by women that address the problem of expression in a male dominated society. The tapes, selected from the United States, Canada, Belgium and Austria, scan a spectrum of approaches ranging from the body as a visual textbook to exposing the cultural associations in "scientific" and "medical" texts. Each tape employs various strategies of resistance against the silencing of their expression.

Two tapes, Kugelkopf by Mara Mattaschka and Am I My Mother's Keeper? by Sherry Kromer Shapiro investigate self-mutilation as a radical appropriation of language. In Shapiro's work, a woman explains, "I could turn blue in the face, crying for
help, and no one would listen. But, if I was bruised and bleeding, people could see my need and they would help me." Working with the Media Workshop in Vienna, Ilse Gassinger's Exposed and Die Evidenz Des Kalkuels deconstructs the structuring influence of the male gaze. Mindy Faber's Identity Crisis demonstrates the influence of the gaze on the development of a female identity. Working in Toronto with sex-trade workers, Gwendolyn's Prowling By Night is a powerful indictment of the police and their attempts to silence AIDS education workers distributing information to prostitutes. Multi-layered text is used by Joelle de la Casiniere to tell the story of the 13th century mystic Hajal-Mansour in a tour-de-force of speech, writing gestures, sound and images. Leslie Singer's Laurie Sings Iggy is a smart, funny impersonation that interprets Leslie doing Laurie doing Iggy in a spiraling simulacrum. In a disturbing portrayal of urban ritual, Azian Nurudin's The Headhunters of Borneo pits the ritualistic nature of culture against America's materialism. We, by Shelly Silver, reminds us of the phallic underpinnings of Western culture while Barbara Lattanzi's Soma testifies to the body "speaking" through figures of speech.

The video program will be accompanied by a brochure with an essay by artist and curator Julie Zando.

Julie Zando recently began a Ph.D program in Comparative Arts at the University of Rochester. She lives in Buffalo, New York.


Artists Space is a member of the National Association of Artists Organizations (NAAO) and Media Alliance.