

In 1983 Artists Space initiated a series of special exhibitions with the support of The Mark Rothko Foundation. Through what was then an informal arrangement between the two institutions Artists Space was able to present, on an annual basis, the work of serious artists with considerable experience in their chosen field who had not received the public recognition warranted by their work. In 1988 the Mark Rothko Foundation awarded a grant to Artists Space which will enable us to continue this series annually, through 1999.

Painters Jared Fitzgerald and Nickzad Nodjoumi, and sculptors Gilda Pervin and Kendall Shaw are each represented with individual, comprehensive installations of their recent work as well as some work created for this exhibition. While the exhibition is not thematic, these artists do share an obsession in terms of their subject and each has evolved a very specific, personal formal vocabulary. Both Fitzgerald and Nodjoumi have employed in their paintings a personal symbology which condenses mythologies that are religious, political, historic and fantastic. Fitzgerald's psychological landscapes are peopled with a strange cast of giants, baseball players and other mythical figures. Nodjoumi addresses political concerns as they overlap with personal history, and employs art historical references to structure his lushly painted panels. Shaw and Pervin are obsessive makers of sculptural objects and landscapes. Pervin scavenges and recombines urban detritus to create poetic assemblages which critique the gallery architecture thru assimilation with its physical structure. Her free-standing objects are contained moments which embody daily life and its activity. Shaw is concerned with pain and the poetic or associative nature of everyday objects. He creates formal arrangements that are rooted in Minimalism, but groups loaded and often dangerous objects such as nails, razor blades, barbed wire and broken glass to address the tenuousness of everyday existence. These artists were selected from the Artists File, the use of which we hope to expand as a source for this series of exhibitions in the future. The depth and commitment of their work is inspiring and we thank them each for their participation in the exhibition.

We thank the Mark Rothko Foundation for its farightedness in recognizing the need within the art community to support these artists and provide a forum for their work.

Carlos Gutierrez-Solana/Executive Director
Connie Butler/Curator

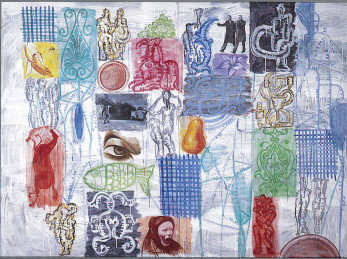
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Jared Fitzgerald



Untitled 1990
oil on canvas, 40 x 70 inches
Courtesy of the artist
photo: courtesy of the artist

Nickzad Nodjoumi



The Collective Spirit of Time 1989-90
acrylic on canvas, 71 x 100 inches
Courtesy of the artist
photo: courtesy of the artist

Gilda Pervin



Pandora's Bath 1990
mixed media on wood, 71 x 46 x 41 1/2 inches
Courtesy of the artist
photo: courtesy of the artist

Kendall Shaw



Trash 1990
mixed media
Courtesy of the artist
photo: courtesy of the artist