Oberlin, Ohio—"Pictures," a group exhibition organized by critic Douglas Crimp for Artists Space, Committee for the Visual Arts, Inc., in New York, will open on Tuesday, February 28, at the Allen Memorial Art Museum at Oberlin College. It will run through March 25.

The five artists in the exhibition - Troy Brauntuch, Jack Goldstein, Sherrie Levine, Robert Longo, and Philip Smith - share a common interest in the psychological manifestations of identifiable and highly connotative, though non-specific, imagery. Mr. Crimp has remarked in his catalogue essay that "representation has returned in their work not in the familiar guise of realism, which seeks to resemble a prior existence, but as an autonomous function....It is the representation freed from the tyranny of the represented."

While the five artists have certain similar concerns with the function of the image, they work in different media and produce works that are distinctly their own. The exhibition includes the subtle and refined reproductive techniques of Troy Brauntuch’s prints; the assertive colored phonograph records, short films and photographs of Jack Goldstein; Sherrie Levine’s serially represented profiles executed on graph paper with a fluorescent paint; the cast aluminum reliefs painted with bright enamel by Robert Longo; and the large scale pastel chalk drawings of multiple evocative vignettes by Philip Smith.

The work of these artists is part of a significant trend in post-abstract American art, where the artist is again showing an interest in the image, not as representation in itself, but for what it can tell us about how we perceive reality.

"Pictures" is sponsored by National Distillers and Chemical Corporation, whose generosity and interest has allowed Artists Space, the Allen Art Museum, and other institutions on the exhibition’s tour an important opportunity to present a carefully and critically approached group exhibition.

The Museum’s hours are: closed on Mondays; open on Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesdays through Fridays, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturdays, Sundays -2-5 p.m.

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