

Artists Space

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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May 29 - July 17, 1982

Opening Reception: Saturday, May 29, 5-7pm.

GROUP MATERIAL Room 207
Primer (for Raymond Williams)

Primer (for Raymond Williams) is a collaborative installation presenting over 30 individual responses to the political and social content of ordinary words such as: building, check, donkey, map, number, sale, space, table etc. The installation was assembled by Group Material, a radical art organization which has been operating since 1979 and aims to present formally and politically innovative contemporary art. Exhibitions organized by Group Material have examined such subjects as: alienation, consumerism, gender, fashion and politics. Utilizing the poster debate format popular in China, Group Material is presenting a Spring outdoor poster exhibition entitled Da Zi Baos on the Klein's building in Union Square, NY. Tim Rollins, a founder and director of Group Material, states that Primer (for Raymond Williams), "is dedicated to Raymond Williams, a British cultural critic and historian whose innovative work in the field of art, politics and language (culminating in his work, Keywords of 1976) serves as an inspiration and example to the theme and method of our project." Among the artists who will include work in the show are James Brown, the singer, Sharon Hunt, an activist welfare mother, Conrad Atkinson, a British artist, Dorothy Kohn, a 72 year old graffiti artist, the F.S.L.N. of Nicaragua, Futura 2000, the well-known graffiti artist, as well as Tim Rollins who will work with 6 children from the South Bronx.

MICHAEL BYRON Installation Room 205
For the Nun

Michael Byron's installation commemorates the victimization of a nun. Byron views her as a symbol of the depersonalization and anonymity of violence. Byron's lack of interest in the personal and specific details of this particular nun's violation is emphasized by the fact that he does not identify her. The installation dramatizes the essential loneliness and isolation of all human beings. Byron combines the physical aspects of this alienation, in the form of a hospital bed, a cubical room in a convent atmosphere, with the narrative of his paintings which, like icons, contemplate powerful, distorting and violent experiences. Michael Byron has exhibited his work at the Nelson-Atkins Museum in Kansas City, and at the Anna Leonowns Gallery and Emergency Measures Organization in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Artists Space gallery hours are 11:00 to 6:00, Tuesday through Saturday.

Artists Space regular exhibition program is sponsored by the New York State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Jerome Foundation, the Robert Sterling Clark Foundation, the Samuel Rubin Foundation, and the Walter Foundation. Corporate sponsors are American Can Company, the Art Dealers Association, AT&T Long Lines, Con Edison, Exxon, I. M. Pei & Partners, Philip Morris and Warner Comm.

COMMITTEE FOR THE VISUAL ARTS

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