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GALLERY
Exhibitions

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Three exhibitions at Artists Space

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Western Agenda

an exhibition of sculptural installation investigating spectatorship as a metaphor for changing definitions of monuments, boundaries and personal mobility - organized by Cornelia Butler

Reconstructions

assemblages by Washington artist Jim Rittiman, selected by Chris Bruce, Senior Curator, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle.

Boxes

sculpture by William White

March 14 - May 4, 1991

Opening Reception: March 14, 6-8pm

Gallery hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 11-6pm

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Western Agenda

Deborah Garwood, Ava Gerber, Page Hauser, Rita McBride, John Monti, David Schafer

Western Agenda focuses on sculpture that uses formal and architectural references to address definitions of public and private space and the relationship of the viewer to monuments and sculptural objects. These artists approach installation by making large scale, primarily self-contained, sculptural objects which formally refer to modern movements or tenets such as Minimalism, Post-Modern architecture and Russian Constructivism.

The works explore the implications of public and private viewing both politically, in terms of changing definitions of public monuments here and in Eastern Europe, and in terms of the viewer's relationship to the gallery. By creating sculptural objects within the gallery space which refer to other kinds of public viewing situations, the exhibition explores how abstract or formal sculpture as installation can address larger political concerns by engendering meaning in largely non-narrative objects.

Western Agenda will be accompanied by a catalogue with an essay by Cornelia Butler, statements by the artists, as well as photographic reproductions of the artist's current installations and past work.

Reconstructions

Jim Rittiman

The complex assemblages that make up the 15th Artists Space "Project", **Reconstructions**, are made from bits of collected animal bones and insect parts. Each piece is made from literally thousands of organic fragments which are meticulously combined, confused, and reconfigured. The viewer is meant to draw multiple references from the sometimes humorous, sometimes disturbing, gestural creatures.

Rittiman adopts a natural history museum approach for both his process and presentation. The found specimens--road kill, deceased rodents, etc.--are skinned, gutted and dropped into a terrarium filled with thousands of Dermestid beetles for cleaning. The bones and insect parts are then presented in tiny diorama-style boxes. The figures are intricate, evolutionary creatures belonging to a hybrid species now fascinating and dysfunctional.

Artists Space programs are made possible by: the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, New York State Council on the Arts, and New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; AT&T Foundation, Inc., The David Bermant Foundation: Color, Light, Motion, The Bohen Foundation, The Cowles Charitable Trust, Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, Foundation for Contemporary Performance Arts, Inc., Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, The Greenwall Foundation, Jerome Foundation, The J.M. Kaplan Fund, The Dorothea L. Leonhardt Foundation, Inc., The Joe and Emily Lowe Foundation, Inc., The Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation, The Menemsha Fund, Joyce Mertz-Gilmore Foundation, Betty Parsons Foundation, The Reed Foundation, Inc., The Rockefeller Foundation, The Mark Rothko Foundation, Inc., and The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Inc.; American Express Company, The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc., Equitable Real Estate Group, Inc., General Atlantic Corporation, R.H. Macy and Company, Inc., Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, Philip Morris Companies Inc., and U.S. Trust Company of New York; as well as Artwatch, Galleries in Support of Artists Space, Members and numerous Friends.

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