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SELECTIONS from the Artists File

Organized by Kellie Jones

October 1 - 31, 1987

For the 7th year, Artists Space presents Selections from the Artists File, an exhibition of painting, sculpture, photography and installations. Out of the over 2,500 New York state artists on file, Guest Curator Kellie Jones, Visual Arts Director of the Jamaica (Queens) Arts Center, chose eleven whose diversity of talent and media suggests the range of contemporary art making. Included in this year's exhibition are Lillian Ball, Marina Cappelletto, David Gesualdi, Cynthia Hawkins, Lisa Mann, Stefani Mar, Hunter Reynolds, Cari Rosmarin, Carol Sun, Felix Gonzalez-Torres and Fred Wilson. Selections from the Artists File is accompanied by an illustrated catalogue with an essay by Kellie Jones.

There are six painters in the exhibition, Gesualdi, Hawkins, Sun, Cappelletto, Rosmarin and Reynolds, representing the gamut of methods from automatist scrawls (Gesualdi) to appropriated media imagery (Reynolds). Mann and Gonzalez-Torres experiment with non-traditional forms of photography. The haunting objects of Ball contrast with the site specific sculptures of Mar and Wilson.

Founded in 1974, the Artists File, a computerized slide registry, is available free of charge to users and artists. The Artists File has grown tremendously, not only in terms of the number of artists registered, but also in the quality of service it offers to both artists and users. Locating the work of many talented artists who do not show regularly in commercial galleries can be a challenge, and the Artists File is a unique tool for curators and art professionals alike. The Artists File offers a new and exciting potential through computerization. For the first time, artists whose work is registered in the File can be sorted demographically, as well as by style, medium and scale. This new and improved access to the work in the File has been made possible through generous grants from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

Kellie Jones' expertise and wide knowledge of New York's diverse and ever expanding art community makes her an ideal Guest Curator for this season's Selections show. In addition to her position at the Jamaica Arts Center, Broida Museum, and the Studio Museum in Harlem, Jones' curatorial experience extends to a variety of exhibitions she has guest curated at Cinque Gallery, Henry Street Settlement, Soho 20, Small Walls, among others. She has also been a panelist and consultant for the New York State Council on the Arts, as well as a Visiting Curator and/or Lecturer at Maryland Art Place, Harlem School of the Arts, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Columbia University.

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