ARTISTS SPACE

223 West Broadway

New York, NY 10013

(212) 226-3970

For further information contact: Micki McGee or Patricia Thornley (212) 226-3970

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PROJECT: LES LEVEQUE
SOME QUESTIONS CONCERNING TECHNOLOGY



Selected by John Knecht
March 8 - April 7, 1990
Opening Reception: Thursday, March 8, 6 - 8 pm
Gallery Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 11 - 6

SOME QUESTIONS CONCERNING TECHNOLOGY features three video sculptures by New York artist Les LeVeque, who addresses himself to the dialectical relation of humanity to technology. Neither a romantic subscriber to the notion that technology is evil, nor a modernist revering the sheen of stainless steel, LeVeque positions his investigations in the schizophrenic space of dependency on and disdain for technology.

In The Rain Forest Is On Fire LeVeque weds materials from the natural world with the tools of human intervention: a tree trunk is strapped with a series of eight hacking machetes that scar the bark, but never cut through, while two video monitors repeat images of a journey. Surveillance devices, neon signs and the spectator's gaze become the ironic tools of LeVeque's investigation with Trust Suspicion. One watchman monitor repeats an image from the film "Suspicion" where Joan Fontaine slowly looks over her shoulder, while a second watchman repeats a surveillance camera image of the viewer turning to view the installation, unconsciously mimicking the filmic image. . . . Control is a poignant construction that mourns the lost of sexuality and fear of the human touch, referencing the current isolation precipitated by the AIDS epidemic. A brochure with an essay by video artist John Knecht, who selected the project, will accompany the exhibition.

Born on an Indian reservation in Cortez, Colorado, where his father was prospecting for uranium, LeVeque was raised in Columbus, Ohio and moved to New York in the early eighties. He has recently exhibited at Spaces in Cleveland, Ohio.

SOME QUESTIONS CONCERNING TECHNOLOGY is the fourth in this season's series of "Projects," an exhibition series initiated in the 1988/89 season to highlight the work of individual artists. Previous projects have included the work of Fred Tomaselli, Michael Sorkin, Barbara Steinman and Bolek Greczynski.

SOME QUESTIONS CONCERNING TECHNOLOGY is funded in part by the New York State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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