FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

too black, too strong!
An exhibition of videotapes and works on paper organized by Reginald Woolery.

APRIL 14 - MAY 14, 1988
OPENING RECEPTION: THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 1988
GALLERY HOURS: TUESDAY - SATURDAY, 11-6pm

The program will be screened continuously from 11am until 6pm, Tuesday through Saturday. Call for schedule information.

Some People, by Mary Easter, color, 19 minutes, 1988.

Shopping Bag Spirits and Freeway Fetishes; Reflections on Ritual Space, by Barbara McCullough, color, 60 minutes, 1984.
Water Ritual, by Barbara McCullough, B&W, 4 minutes, 1980.
What Goes Around, Comes Around, by Philip Mallory Jones, color, 3 minutes, 1986.
The Trouble I've Seen, by Philip Mallory Jones, color, 10 minutes, 1976.

Extra Rooms, by Philip Mallory Jones, color, 20 minutes, 1980.

Watermelon Series, collages by LaMonte Westmoreland, 1986.

Artists Space is pleased to present too Black, too Strong!, an exhibition of videotapes and works on paper produced by African-American artists, performers, and writers influenced by video imagery and the mass media. The title is taken from a lyric written by Public Enemy, a group of street hard-rock rappers from Long Island. The title refers to the diversity of experiences within Black society and the exhibition explores issues of access, freedom, aesthetics, sexual politics and representation. Reginald Woolery, a painter, was formerly the Distribution Manager for The Black Filmmaker Foundation and is currently the Membership Coordinator at The Media Alliance.

Mary Easter's video explores the lives of 7 black characters
through their own personal commentary as well as that of their dancing alter-egos. Albert Marshall's video dramatizes the story of a young girl who leaves her job as a domestic in the South and moves to Chicago to pursue her dream of becoming a jazz singer. Michelle Parkerson continues her series of portraits of black women with her video on Storme DeLarverie, the emcee of the Jewel Box Revue, a multi-racial troupe of female impersonators that toured in the 1950's and 1960's. Philip Mallory Jones' three videos present an introspective animation, a multi-layered look at life among rural Black families, and a room by room exploration of sexuality. Barbara McCullough investigates the various concepts (religious, cultural...) and uses of ritual in her videos by interviewing artists from various disciplines.

In Reginald Woolery's xerox collages, autobiographical references are mixed with racially relevant media imagery situating the artist in the contemporary political arena. In Daniel Tisdale's slides of works on paper, the faces of historical black leaders are "altered" via contact lenses, nose jobs, and skin bleaching in response to Michael Jackson's dramatic transformation. In LaMonte Westmoreland's collages, it is the white men who are eating the watermelon, thereby depriving the Black man once again.


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