



Art at MIT

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MIT'S LIST CENTER PRESENTS SWISS FILMMAKERS/PHOTOGRAPHERS

The MIT List Visual Arts Center will present the most recent film by Swiss collaborative artists Peter Fischli and David Weiss and an exhibition of 30 of their photographs, October 9 - November 15, 1987. The public is invited to a reception October 8, 5-7 pm, for both this exhibit and Jenny Holzer: Signs. (See attached release.)

The artists' latest film, Der Lauf der Dinge (The Way Things Go), will run continuously during gallery hours. In the film household objects such as sugar cubes, styrofoam cups, a tea kettle, and wooden blocks follow a seemingly haphazard path of successive actions and reactions involving rolling, melting, dripping, steaming, and toppling to create a series of dramatic tension-filled temporary crises and resolutions.

Considered by many to be the high point of the international art exhibition "Documenta 8" in Kassel, Germany, the film is being introduced to U.S. audiences with this project.

Since 1979 this Zurich-based team has been engaged in a quest, both comic and melancholic, for moments of order within the chaos of reality. They use familiar objects in inventive, quirky still lifes and animated set-ups to investigate the mysterious relationships and meanings that animate existence.

In the catalogue introduction Katy Kline wrote "Fischli and Weiss conjure up provisional arrangements which defy both gravity and logic in a paradoxical attempt to better understand the world. Their work pushes the mundane to the point of magic. . .they elevate the mildest moments to the poignancy of poetry." Ms. Kline is acting director and curator of the List Visual Arts Center.

This exhibition was organized by Guest Curator Karen Marta, Associate Editor of Parkett Magazine, and is supported in part by a grant from the Swiss Council for the Arts PRO HELVETIA. It is accompanied by the artists' first English-language catalogue, including 20 reproductions.

The exhibition will travel to the Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago, the Institute for Art and Urban Resources, P.S.1, New York; and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles.

The List Visual Arts Center is located in the Wiesner Building, 20 Ames Street, on the MIT Campus not far from the Kendall Square T station. Weekdays: 12-6, weekends 1-5. Admission is free.

September 29, 1987



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For Immediate Release

September 29, 1987

AN ARTIST OF SIGNS: AT THE MIT LIST VISUAL ARTS CENTER

The MIT List Visual Arts Center will present the first traveling museum exhibition of the work of New York artist Jenny Holzer, October 9 - November 29.

The artist will be present at the public preview, Thursday, October 8, 5 - 7 pm. She will give a slide talk on her own work and that of other socially committed artists who work in public spaces, Tuesday, October 27, 7 pm in the Bartos Theater, List Visual Arts Center Lower Level.

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Language is Holzer's medium; she produces diverse writings ranging from punchy one-liners to scathing hundred-word essays to measured elegies. Her work runs through a gamut of views and speech patterns reflecting the diversity and contradictions of modern society. She distributes her language works as posters, plaques, t-shirts, furniture, billboards, and electronic message boards. Each is created as an anonymous statement for wide public consumption and consideration by passersby...when they least expect it.

Holzer's messages will appear periodically on electronic billboards at the following places:

BOSTON:

Filene's Basement, 426 Washington Street
School of the Museum of Fine Arts, 230 The Fenway
Stocks and Bonds Deli and Lounge, 55 State Street

SOMERVILLE:

Davis Square at Summer Street
Winter Hill Federal Savings Bank
Broadway and School Street

PEABODY:

North Shore Plaza

BRAINTREE:

South Shore Plaza

HANOVER:

Hanover Mall

(Continued)

HOLZER 2-2-2

Within the List Visual Arts Center will be nearly 40 works, including electronic signs and granite benches; bronze and aluminum plaques will be installed around the MIT campus. (Call for details of additional signs in the Boston area.)

Born in 1950 in Gallipolis, Ohio, Holzer studied at Duke University, University of Chicago, and Ohio University, and received her MFA from the Rhode Island School of Design, 1976. She was a fellow in the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program, 1976-77.

A 96-page catalogue accompanies the exhibition, including texts by exhibition curator Joan Simon, an interview with the artist by Bruce Ferguson, and a bibliography, chronology, checklist and index. Holzer's work is presented in 112 b/w illustrations and 8 color plates. The catalogue is available at the gallery desk for \$15.

Jenny Holzer: Signs was organized by Joan Simon for the Des Moines Art Center, and has traveled to Aspen, San Francisco and Chicago before its presentation at MIT. Photographs are available by calling (617) 253-4400.

Also on view at the MIT List Visual Arts Center:

Terry Winters: Schema, Sept 26-Nov 29

A series of 75 drawings based in part on natural phenomena and motifs, companion to an exhibition of Winters' paintings at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

Peter Fischli & David Weiss Oct 9-Nov 15

A 30-minute film and 30 photographs by this Zurich-based artist team engaged in an ongoing collaborative quest, both comic and melancholic, for moments of balance and order within the chaos of reality.

LOCATION: The MIT List Visual Arts Center is in the Wiesner Building, 20 Ames Street, Cambridge, off Memorial Drive, near the Kendall Square Red Line T stop. Offices: (617) 253-4400; Galleries: (617) 253-4680. Weekdays 12-6; Sat/Sun 1-5. Admission is free and open to the public.