

Further information, contact:
Jennifer Riddell
617.253.4400
JLR@mit.edu

MIT List Visual Arts Center

Wiesner Building, E15-109
20 Ames Street

Cambridge
Massachusetts 02139

Telephone 617 253 4400
Fax 617 258 7265

N E W S R E L E A S E



***Kay Rosen: Short Stories/Tall Tales Completes
Year-Long Series of Exhibitions on
Language and Communication***

Cambridge, MA, April 1997 -- An exhibition of recent paintings by Gary, Indiana-based artist Kay Rosen entitled *Short Stories/Tall Tales* will open at the MIT List Visual Arts Center on April 18, with a public reception from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and remain on view through June 29, 1997. The exhibition, held in the Bakalar Gallery project space of the LVAC, complete a year-long series of projects in that same space in which artists presented work exploring the nature of language and communication. Joseph Grigely's exhibition, "Ordinary Conversations," was presented in Fall 96, and Jill Reynolds' project, "The Shape of Breath," in Winter 97.

While the adage, pictures are worth a thousand words, points to the endless interpretive and descriptive possibilities offered by visual representations, the specificity of language and words themselves are generally thought to offer more incisive meanings. Kay Rosen upsets this order by using language as the subject of her paintings, turning words themselves into pictorial images that explore the vicissitudes of language. The work asks viewers to explore the ways meanings are read, derived, and decoded from language by using puns, repetitions, abrogating conventional grammatical rules, and examining the graphical properties of words themselves. Relying on wordplay, humor, and attunement to popular culture forms, Rosen's work is imbued with an irreverent charm.

Public Event

Thursday, May 15, 7 p.m.

Steven Pinker

Director, Center for Cognitive Neuroscience, MIT
and author of *The Language Instinct*
will discuss Kay Rosen's work

Bartos Theatre
20 Ames St. (lower level)
free and open to the public

~ over ~

ROSEN/2

How to Get to the MIT List Visual Arts Center

The List Visual Arts Center is located in the Weisner Building, 20 Ames St., at the eastern edge of the MIT campus. It is in close proximity to Kendall Square, Memorial Drive, and the Longfellow Bridge.

By T, take the red line to the Kendall/MIT stop, follow Main St. west to Ames St., turn left, walk the distance of about one block to the cross walk and the List Visual Arts Center, housed in a building identifiable by its white gridded exterior, will be on your left. Signage is on the building.

By car, coming across the Longfellow Bridge or from Memorial Drive, follow signs for Kendall Square. Parking is available at the Cambridge Center parking structure on Ames between Main St. and Broadway during regular hours and on campus after business hours and on weekends

Gallery Hours

Tues. - Thurs., Sat., Sun.	12 - 6 p.m.
Friday	12 - 8 p.m.
closed Monday	

Information

617.253.4680 or
<http://web.mit.edu/lvac/www>

All exhibitions at the List Visual Arts Center are free and open to the public.
Wheelchair accessible.

###