

Sally Gutierrez and Alex Villar "DOPPEL 6 (Not a place)"

Opening Friday 11 May 2001, 7 pm - 9 pm
Exhibition dates 12 May - 23 June 2001
opening hours Wed-Fri 1 pm - 7 pm Sat 1 pm - 6 pm

Sally Gutierrez and Alex Villar are currently based in New York, where they both participated in the Whitney Independent Study Program 99/00. Realizing that their work had similar concerns in relation to notions of space in the urban context, they articulated a series of two artist shows in which their work would function as a point of dialogue about such ideas with art historians-critics Sabeth Buchmann and Simon Sheik. Their presentation at gallery Kamm will be the first of such shows. The panel discussion with Sabeth Buchmann and Simon Sheik will be on in the bookstore pro qm, Alte Schönhauser Str. 48, Berlin.

Sally Gutierrez has been working with documentary strategies and interior spaces for the last years. For (Not a place) she will show photographs from the series Blue Window Objects and a single channel video piece: City-Game Television.

Blue Window Objects is a series of intervened photographs in which Sally Gutierrez explores the idea of the window as both non-place and all-place. Gutierrez blotted out the objects, drawing over them in blue, making such objects, -still 'inside' but posed on the threshold of the 'exterior' world- one dimensional and flat, and thus questioning the borders between private and public in architecture, photography and drawing, and the classical notions of perspective.

City-Game Television was conceived from Sally Gutierrez's studio on the 91st floor of the World Trade Center (Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Residency) and shows unedited views from different windows. The view, both privileged and distant, shows the continuous movement in the city in which different people and realities constantly cross each other without coming in contact.

For the third piece presented in this show: Your View, the artist asked people from all over the world to send her an e-mail with a description of what they see from their window.

Alex Villar's piece is a video installation that dwells on dead space-time, this portion of the day when one lives between places. The installation is comprised of a tubular structure wrapped in netting material that houses a video projection. The structure functions as a kind of provisional architecture. From the outside, it refers to a construction site -- a site where work is ongoing. Once inside, the visitor has to negotiate the interior space with a scaffolding structure.

All the scenes were shot in the subway in New York City, this privatized portion of public space where the flow of people is thoroughly regulated. The pursuit of such spaces follows a contrary orientation, it is the pursuit of spaces that exist on the edge of the rational logic governing the interior design of the subway system, those small pockets of incoherence and contradiction that can be accentuated and perhaps reversed.