THE IMAGINARY GALLERY

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'INNER SPACE'

(A GROUP SHOW CURATED BY SIMON RACKHAM)

OCT 31 - NOV 13, 2002 (DAILY 1pm - 6pm)

Jeremy Long- Six large scale, digitally enhanced 'self portrait' photographs. "Catching the first bus I saw, I completed its journey blindfolded. On arriving at its destination, I asked the first person I met to take a photograph of me". Letting chance dictate the locality and time of the work, Longs photographs remain as poignant reminders of a journey to somewhere experienced without sight. Only the background gives any information as to the arrival point.

Stuart Morely- 'Dust Glove & Diary', for nearly two years Stuart carried a yellow washing up glove with him, wherever he found dust he carefully put it into the glove. Over time the glove filled up until no more dust could be fitted in, then it was tied with a yellow ribbon. Stuart also kept a diary of when and where the dust was collected. "Dust is the physical remains of living, by keeping the dust I feel as though I'm keeping the soul of the people it came from".

Annabel Clove- 'Four circular paintings', after a period of more conceptually based works Annabel returned to painting. In these new works she manipulates ideas and images, found and made material into a visceral purée of meaning. "I've never felt that painting is anything but a conceptual art".

Chao Hui-Yang- 'Seeing Me Seeing You', Painting and video installation. In one of the eyes of a self portrait Chao has placed a micro surveillance camera, the viewer is unaware that the painting is returning the gaze. In a second room is a similar frame but this time a live video is showing the face of the person looking at the painting. "I wondered how it felt to be a painting being looked at, and this lead me to wonder at what the painting saw".

Geoff Burrows- 'Painted Nude' black and white photograph. In this life size photograph the artist is completely painted in black oil paint. He sits looking into the lens with a blank expression holding a gilt frame around him. The work references ideas of sex, race and power as well as art history and confronts the viewer to asses their own responses.

Steve McArthur- 'Elasticity'. An elastic band is stretched from wall to wall. There is subtlety and tension in this disarmingly simple piece. The floor is littered with broken elastic bands and the heart misses a beat when the elastic breaks and leaps across the room with a gentle twang.

Sheila Monroe-'Cut To Pieces'. Sheila Monroe has trawled through hundreds of 'Art' books (including library books) cutting out all references to Yoko Ono, these fragments of text have been carefully glued onto the inside of a bin. The work is a homage to Yoko Ono who Sheila believes is monumentally underrated in contemporary art circles. "I feel that her importance as an artist is being written out of art history, so I wanted to use a reference to her famous 'Cut Piece' and store all the information I could find about her safely in the very place that many people seem to want to deposit her. Too many people dismiss her work out of hand, either through ignorance of it, or because of the John Lennon association and the fame or infamy she achieved. To me Yoko Ono is one of the giants of the last century, and she's a woman!"