

Press release:
Something Happened

Gregg Bordowitz, Jim Campbell, Magdalena Campos-Pons,
Ximena Cuevas, LeAlan Jones and Lloyd Newman with David
Isay of Sound Portrait Productions, and Christopher Sullivan

Curated by:
Sally Berger

November 15 - December 16, 2000

Opening reception: Wednesday, November 15, 6-8 pm

Life has a way of overtaking us with huge and overwhelming events. Sometimes sooner, sometimes later, eventually something happens that is all-encompassing and inescapably life altering. The works in this exhibition are autobiographically-based evocations of such moments. As in Mike Figgis's recent digital movie *Time Code* (2000), that places the interrelated action of the story's protagonists on a four-way split cinema screen, these works are presented as a group to suggest the simultaneity of life experiences. Represented are events from the realities of our age, yet common to all time.



LeAlan Jones and Lloyd Newman
from *Our America*, 1997 with David
Isay of Sound Portrait Productions



Ximena Cuevas, *El Diablo en la Piel*
(Devil in the Flesh), 1998

Documentary, narrative and symbolic forms are expressively used by these artists to dispel the boundaries between their private experience and their materials. Gregg Bordowitz's short story features his alter-ego Alexander Pittleman who is afflicted with a disease that has no cure. Magdalena Campos-Pons performs tableaux before a large format Polaroid camera to summon the complex nature of her identity as a Cuban-born woman of African roots now living in the northeastern U.S. Two of Jim Campbell's digitally recorded *Memory Works* (1994-98) combine electronics, his own body rhythms, and photographs to evoke his parental bonds. Ximena Cuevas uses the video camera as an extension of her skin. She compiled the video series *Self-Portraits and Other Myths* and recorded *La Puerta* while caring for her mother during a long illness in 1999. *Ghetto Life 101* and *Remorse: The 14 Stories of Eric Morse* (1993-96) are sound recordings by two young boys, LeAlan Jones and Lloyd Newman, with David Isay of Sound Portraits Productions. These candid radio documentaries tell of daily life and catastrophic events in a public housing project in Chicago. And in the style of a *roman à clef*, Chris Sullivan's episodic animated narrative *Consuming Spirits* (Part 1, 1998) evokes the dark secrets of his childhood in Pittsburgh.

A brochure containing an essay by Sally Berger will be available free of charge.

Please contact Apex Art for further information. Hours are Tuesday to Saturday, 11-6.

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