

Press release:

## ***Building Histories***

Curated by:

Maureen Connor

October 14 - November 13, 1999

Opening reception: Wednesday, October 13, 6-8

Arthur Cohen

Carrie Cooperider

Josiah McElhenny

Margaret Morgan

Repo History

Haim Steinbach

David Wells

Martha Wilson

*Building Histories* includes work that addresses and reflects the history of 291 Church Street (the building that houses Apex) and its immediate neighborhood. Built in 1877 as a "first class store", its subsequent uses and transformations are, in many ways, typical of loft buildings in Tribeca. What is unique here is that the ground floor of 291 Church has, since the 1970s, earned its keep mostly by functioning as a gallery, while the rest of the building has provided a live/work space for artists.

The show focuses on the building's and its neighborhood's past lives at a moment when both Tribeca and the art world seem to be undergoing a generational shift, similar to the one that occurred in the seventies. Apex, with its history of an ongoing relationship with the contemporary art audience, offers a context uniquely suited to raise some questions about the impact, not just of the most recent generations, but of the last six or more.

The exhibition will include site specific pieces as well as existing works that relate to the exhibition concept. Some works will refer to land uses before the present structure was built. David Wells will present a slide show of his work every Thursday at 5 pm for the duration of the exhibition. Other evening events to be announced--visit [www.apexart.org](http://www.apexart.org) or the gallery for dates and details.

A brochure containing an essay by Maureen Connor will be available free of charge.

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

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