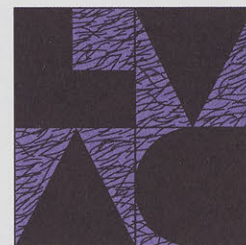


N E W S R E L E A S E

CORPORAL POLITICS AT THE MIT LIST VISUAL ARTS CENTER

The List Visual Arts Center presents the exhibition **Corporal Politics** featuring the work of artists Louise Bourgeois, Robert Gober, Lilla LoCurto, William Outcault, Annette Messenger, Rona Pondick, Kiki Smith and David Wojnarowicz from December 12, 1992 through February 14, 1993. A press preview will take place on Thursday, December 10 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. A public reception will be held on Friday, December 11 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Corporal Politics examines a startling phenomenon in recent art, the striking preponderance of the body fragment as a highly charged metaphor for psychological, social, political and physical assaults on the individual. Isolated body parts and limbs, internal organs and bodily fluids emphasize the vulnerability of our bodies and serve as the site for the investigation of some of our most urgent contemporary concerns including sexism, sexual identity, reproductive rights, homophobia, social inequity, brutality, disease and death. Works such as Kiki Smith's cast glass sperm and bronze organs, Robert Gober's half-male, half-female torso and genital wallpaper, Rona Pondick's disembodied heads, breasts and buttocks and David Wojnarowicz's autobiographical texts and images addressing the body and disease, specifically AIDS,

poignantly deconstruct ideals of coherent identity and an integrated self in our times.

A fully-illustrated 72-page exhibition catalogue with an introduction by the poet Donald Hall and essays by curator Helaine Posner and cultural historian Thomas Laqueur accompanies **Corporal Politics**. Hall's introduction addresses the recent controversy surrounding the politicization of the National Endowment for the Arts and its denial of funds for this project. Posner's essay explores the meaning of the artists' use of the fragmented form, while Laqueur's provocative text outlines the formation of our notions of the modern body. The exhibition catalogue is a co-publication of the List Visual Arts Center and Beacon Press, Boston and is available at the gallery, by mail or at bookstores.

Partial funding for **Corporal Politics** has been provided by the rock band Aerosmith, the playwright Jon Robin Baitz and other generous donors.

The MIT List Visual Arts Center is located in the Wiesner Building, 20 Ames Street, Cambridge, five minutes walk from the Kendall Square Red Line T Station. Parking is available at the corner of Ames and Main Streets. All List Visual Arts Center exhibitions are free and open to the public. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday: 12-6 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday: 1-5 p.m.

For further information contact Ron Platt at (617) 253-4400.