California-based artist KIM YASUDA is creating a new site-specific installation at the List Visual Arts Center this January as MIT artist-in-residence. The completed work, titled UNQUIET, will be on view from January 13 - March 24, 1996.

Yasuda creates installations that expand the conventional notions of fixed identity. She orchestrates text, objects, photographs and video projections to communicate the transient quality of memory, translating the psychological terrain of the mind into a physical landscape. She has a distinctive way of handling space with elegance and an austere cultivation of the mundane.

In UNQUIET the artist influences the pervasive rationalism of the building’s architecture with subtle acts of subversion. Voyeurism and longing interrupt the body in its scripted movement through space. For example, acknowledging the List Arts Center’s revolving doors as transitional and cyclic spaces, she places text on the glass so that the visitor is suspended between Alain Robbe-Grillet’s descriptions of two self-absorbed, obsessive, ritual acts: a man eating meat and a woman brushing her hair. The experience of emotional and architectural fragmentation continues inside the List Art Center’s Bakalar Gallery where words are present, yet their meaning is irretrievable; utterances are mouthed without being heard and projected images gesture in cyclic repetition. Although UNQUIET draws from memory, Yasuda consciously avoids nostalgia or reconciliation with her past, attempting instead to articulate the absences.

Kim Yasuda received an MFA from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles in 1988 and is currently an Associate Professor of Art at the University of California, Santa Barbara. She has created several site-specific installations on the West Coast including, Hereditary Memories at the Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport Beach; Genealogical Bewilderment at SF CAMERAWORK and Unspoken at The Ansel Adams Center for Photography both in San Francisco. UNQUIET is her first installation on the East Coast.

On SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, Yasuda will discuss her art, the List Center’s concurrent exhibition Asia/America: Identities in Contemporary Asian American Art and the issue of mixed race identity from 2 to 4 PM. This informal session will take place at MIT’s Wiesner Building, 20 Ames Street, Cambridge, room 054 (below the List Arts Center). At 7 PM two films addressing mixed race identity, Body of Correspondence: A Post-mortem Menage a Trois by Ruth Ozeki Lounsbury and Marina Zurkow and None of the Above by Erika Anderson, will be shown in the Bartos Theater, located on the lower level of the Wiesner Building.

The List Visual Arts Center is located at 20 Ames Street in Cambridge, a short walk from the Kendall Square Red Line T Station. Parking is available at the corner of Main and Ames Streets. The List Center is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 12-6 pm, Wednesday: 12-8 pm, and weekends: 1-5 pm. Closed holidays. All List Center exhibitions and events are free and open to the public. For further information call Ron Platt at 617/253-4400.