

Alexander and Bonin

EXHIBITION: Jennifer Bolande
DATES: September 9 – October 16, 1999
LOCATION: 132 Tenth Avenue between 18th and 19th
HOURS: Tuesday - Saturday, 10am to 6pm

Alexander and Bonin is pleased to announce its first exhibition of works by Jennifer Bolande. Exhibiting in New York since the early 1980s, with shows at The Kitchen, Artists Space, Nature Morte and Metro Pictures, Bolande has been known for her exploration of the relationship between photographic imagery and the object.

This exhibition presents a new body of work centered around *Appliance House*, a photo-sculpture which conflates Lever House (an icon of modernist architecture in Manhattan, designed in the early fifties by Gordon Bunshaft of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill) with an aged appliance store window display. Both sites were photographed numerous times, from various floors of the surrounding buildings and the images, all nocturnal views, include washers, dryers and other appliances as well as views of office interiors, printed as transparencies and lit from behind. The structure of the piece emerged as a way of housing these multiple points of view and combines the format of a 35mm contact sheet with the exactly reduced proportions of Lever House built in stainless steel. This odd twinship between fixtures of urban and domestic landscapes, between industrial power (Lever Brothers, makers of soap products) and workaday life poses evocative reflections on Modernism's promise of progress and its passage. Built largely on the computer, *Appliance House* and a number of the digital photographs in the exhibition were produced with the collaboration of Muse (X) Editions, Los Angeles.

In a related work, a photo-mosaic made with colored plastic tiles re-imagines an artwork seen in one of the windows of Lever House. An illuminated large-scale sculpture in this exhibition, conceived as a monument to Times Square, consists of movie marquees dislodged from their usual milieu and stacked like empty promises.

In addition to the sculpture and photo-sculptures, the exhibition will also include photographs, collage, drawing and animation related to themes of *Appliance House* and to Bolande's art in general, including miniaturization, memory and the passage of time. Many of Bolande's new works touch on the constant transformation of architecture and urban environments and ponder the fate and current status of monuments, large and small in the memory of urban dwellers.