

# press release

THE KITCHEN

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## JOHN MILLER

April 9-30, 1983  
Opening reception Saturday,  
April 9, 5-7pm  
The Kitchen, 484 Broome St.,  
2nd Floor  
Gallery Hours: Tues-Sat,  
1-6pm

From April 9-30, 1983, The Kitchen Gallery features recent work by JOHN MILLER.

"I am gazing at a picture of a swan. It embodies a studied perfection, in spite of the artist's hand and its lurking vestiges. How can I go on after such a work? Other pictures, stories, and expressions invite one to think his purpose is the same as others. The swan floating over my kitchen table is a distant powder puff. If the rules of foreshortening were temporarily suspended, the swan would examine the figurine close-up, however we know it's not. If the drawing were real space, the swan's sight line would extend to an object slightly beyond the picture frame and the pinched figurine would become a full-scale statue. The ethereal house and the tree would also assume correct proportions. The house and the tree would also assume correct proportions. The impermeable swan, floating upon an indeterminate surface, solid, liquid or gaseous, might be more convincing if presented in relation to other props, like cattails, thereby providing the viewer with enough visual "cues" to fill in the blanks. But as this were not the case, I could not divine if I were lost in a swamp or a marshy thicket or even "lost" technically. I had been blindfolded and made to lie face down in back of the Ford Econo-line van. My abductors had taken care to place a Walkman headset over my ears with the radio blasting full force. This way they could be sure I couldn't retrace my steps, nor retain any memory of the previous evening. Needless to say, when I came to, there in the swamp in the middle of the night, I hadn't the slightest idea where I could be, or where I could want to be. All I could make out was the flicker of a porch light that might have burned miles away or inches in front of my face."

JOHN MILLER's drawings, paintings, books and media works have been exhibited in New York at Artist's Space, White Columns, The Mudd Club, Anthology Film Archives, in Real Life Magazine and most recently at A & M Artworks and a Benefit Exhibition at The Kitchen. He has shown on the West Coast and abroad, including Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (LACE), the Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art, the Ystad, Kristianstad and Norrkopings konstmuseums of Sweden, the Lisson Gallery of London, ZONA of Florence, the Metronom of Barcelona and the Fylkingen Video Arts Festival in Stockholm. His Cave Canem, an anthology of stories and pictures by twelve artists, and Contamination, an illustrated novella, are available through Cave Canem Books, also in New York City.

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