

The Kitchen Center for Video and Music

press release

DAVID SALLE

The Structure Is In Itself Not Reassuring

Installation

November 3-24th, Tues-Sat 1-6pm

The Kitchen Center, 484 Broome Street NYC

Information: 925-3615

The Structure Is In Itself Not Reassuring is the title of an installation by David Salle, to be exhibited at The Kitchen Center November 3-24. The installation, concurrent with a showing at Nosei-Weber/Gagosian of paintings based on the same group of images, may be viewed at The Kitchen Center's Gallery Tuesday to Saturday each week, from 1 to 6pm.

In The Structure Is In Itself Not Reassuring, two free-standing screens, which superficially resemble Japanese screens, become the setting for a complex interplay of images drawn from mass culture sources. The images are painted on the rice paper screens with watercolor, a process which "beautifies" them and at the same time renders them somewhat alien or disturbed. The viewers must decide how to respond to the mixed signals of the images--some beautiful, some narrative, some cultural, some poetic, some dangerous, etc. Instead of congealing into a single narrative, the images float in their softly lit pastel surroundings, inviting interpretations but affirming no particular interpretation.

Ultimately the viewer confronts a situation in which all associations and connections--though real and operative in the context of the piece--become subsumed in "just looking." The disconnected connectedness of the images is related to the notion of hypnagogic thinking--that state before sleep when images pass through the mind with a sense of portent that cannot be explained rationally.

In the past five years, David Salle has favored no single mode of presentation, but has created pieces in a variety of media: installations, videotapes, paintings and performances. In treating different media as equally important, Salle has tended to avoid a signature style. His work has been featured in one-man shows at the Claire Copley Gallery in Los Angeles, Artists Space and The Kitchen in New York City, the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Fondation Corps de Garde and de Appel in Holland and in group shows in California, New York, Holland and Italy. Salle is an occasional critic and writer and has contributed articles and reviews to Arts Magazine, Art Rite, Flash Art, Cover, Salon, Taxis and Museum Journal. In his writing, Salle has attempted to act as spokesman for a new generation of artists who emphasize the indivisibility of the visual, intellectual and emotive aspects of art.

484 Broome Street between West Broadway and Wooster, New York City