

press release

THE KITCHEN

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Contact:
Barbara Hertel
212/925-3615

GALLERY

It seems interesting to me that at the same time that the ruin re-enters the field of contemporary art, there is an attempt to grasp the coming of a new historical consciousness...

...The artificial ruins that multiplied in the gardens of the (18th century) are already "anticipated" ruins because the quality of becoming old was given to them from the beginning.

from Phillipe Junod, "Future In The Past"

THE ANTICIPATED RUIN

JOSEPH BEIRNE

GRETCHEN BENDER

ROBERT GARRAT

JIM JACOBS

KOMAR AND MELAMID

LOUISE LAWLER

SHERRIE LEVINE

ALLAN MCCOLLUM

PETER NAGY

STEVEN PARRINO

MEYER VAISMAN

JANUARY 12 - FEBRUARY 2, 1985

Reception: Saturday, January 12, 5-7 pm

The Anticipated Ruin is a pocket survey of the wide range of issues bracketing the production and contextualization of contemporary art. The work presented by these eleven artists can be seen in part as a response to the resurgence of figuration in the last decade and the attendant acceptance (by an expanded art audience) of the codification of visual culture in terms of received imagery. Appropriation is the focal point of much of the work here, particularly in the extreme form of outright borrowing of other works of art. More importantly, questions concerning how the support system for art appropriates work for its own purposes are raised. By examining the presentation and commodification of the art object, these artists sustain the debate supposedly laid to rest by post-modernism. In doing so, they anticipate a possible future for art built on the ruin of authenticity.

59 Wooster Street, New York, New York 10012 (212) 925-3615