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For Immediate Release

The Kitchen presents a solo exhibition by artist Virginia Overton, March 21 – May 6, 2012

New York, NY, March 21, 2012 – **The Kitchen** presents a solo exhibition of new works by artist **Virginia Overton**. In her large-scale sculpture and installations, Overton uses raw building materials as well as common images within the conditions of a given exhibition space. Curated by **Matthew Lyons**, the exhibition will be on view from **March 21** through **May 6, 2012**. There will be an opening reception for the exhibition at The Kitchen (512 West 19th Street) on **Wednesday, March 21** from **6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.**

The Kitchen's gallery hours are **Tuesday through Friday, 12:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.** and **Saturday, 11:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.** Admission is free.

Overton practices an economy of materials, using and re-using them as they naturally decay into non-use. Through such continual use of objects and images, Overton's work creates a sense of ad-hoc fragility. In effect, the artist sets up provisional relationships between sculptures and the surrounding architecture, with audiences' heightened awareness of weight-bearing loads, for instance, underscoring how objects and images have been asked to perform in this context. Holding traces of past use and process, Overton's materials become more than just "raw."

Overton's inherent pragmatism stands out as an element in her work, giving it a specific kind of directness. Her intuitive process involves a three-pronged approach involving the artist, available materials/images, and the space; and confronts how these three elements that construct the exhibition experience work together.

The work in the exhibition was made on site, using found materials and objects normally stored out of sight: pedestals of various dimensions, rigging pipes, and wooden 2x4s. Behind the gallery walls, theatrical lights pointed upwards direct the eyes to the actual structural walls of the building as well as the matrix of steel pipes, HVAC ducts, and cabling along the ceiling. Using archival photos as a reference, Overton designed a light box which replicates the original signage that hung on the building's exterior above the main doorway when The Kitchen first relocated to West 19th Street in 1986. In addition, she designed a poster which features a detail of the diamond-patterned brickwork on The Kitchen's façade.

Virginia Overton, born 1971 in Nashville, Tennessee, lives and works in Brooklyn. She received her BFA and MFA from the University of Memphis. She has been included in exhibitions at institutions including SculptureCenter and PS1 MoMA in New York City; White Columns, NY; White Flag Projects, St. Louis; The Powerhouse, Memphis; and Le Magasin in Grenoble, France. She has exhibited at galleries including Blum & Poe, Los Angeles; Dispatch Bureau, New York and Air de Paris, Paris. She is represented by Mitchell-Innes & Nash in New York and Freymond-Guth in Zurich.

Funding Credits

This exhibition is made possible with support from Dedalus Foundation Inc., The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, and with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.



ABOUT THE KITCHEN

The Kitchen is one of New York City's oldest nonprofit performance and exhibition spaces, showing experimental work by innovative artists, both emerging and established. Programs range from dance, music, and theatrical performances to video and media arts exhibitions to literary events, film screenings, and artists' talks. Since its inception in 1971, The Kitchen has been a powerful force in shaping the cultural landscape of this country and has helped launch the careers of many artists who have gone on to worldwide prominence.

Box Office Information:

212.255.5793 ext. 11

Tue-Sat, 2-6pm

The Kitchen

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