

JAMES HARRIS GALLERY

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PRESS RELEASE

Tania Kitchell
"Low Pressure"
New Works

December 2, 2004 to January 15, 2005

Reception for the Artist: Thursday, December 2nd, 6:00 - 8:00pm

This December Canadian Artist Tania Kitchell will inaugurate an "INTERNATIONAL" program at the James Harris Gallery. Occurring once a year, the program will expand the dialog of contemporary art in the Northwest by focusing on a country or region beyond the US border with either a solo or thematic group exhibition. By creating an ongoing discourse, JHG "INTERNATIONAL" will give not only the Seattle artistic and collecting community an opportunity to see new work, but also elevate the awareness of our social intercourse to that of a global arena. The program will incorporate a diverse and exciting array of artistic production, including painting, photography, video, sculpture and installation from artists on the forefront of contemporary art. For our inaugural exhibition we look to the North and present new photographs and text work by Toronto artist Tania Kitchell.

Kitchell's work is informed by environment and climate, specifically the harshness of the winter and her perception and relationship with it. She explores these ideas through photographs and paper cutouts of rigorously kept weather entries, which fuel her work.

In her photographs, Kitchell presents us with the artist's environment as the subject, one in which she reacts to and interacts with. Kitchell reveals how her body and the environment impact each other simultaneously by showing remnants of these interactions; the artist's breath made visible by the cold, the snow formed by her hand, the traces of her footsteps. The resulting photographs are at once documentary and performance based. Though the acts within the photographs are staged, the weather cannot be controlled. Kitchell's photographs become evidence of experimentation with the elements and their effects on the body.

With her text based work, Kitchell creates elegant and sparse etched Plexiglas works of descriptive qualities of the weather. These descriptions are imbued with sensuality, and are at once passionate and sublime. This recording of the weather is one way in which the artist attempts to regain control of her environment. As a way of documenting the passing of time as well as an affirmation to consider each day, Kitchell creates a sense that nothing is constant and that change is inevitable.

Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday 11:00 to 5:00 and by appointment. Photography is available upon request.



Snow Factory, 2004
Color photograph
Diptych
each 29" x 29"