

THE NEW MUSEUM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DIMENSIONS VARIABLE: AN EXHIBITION OF SCULPTURE OF AN ELUSIVE AND EPHEMERAL NATURE OPENS SEPTEMBER 29, 1979.

(transitory)

DIMENSIONS VARIABLE (September 29 - November 29) is an exhibition of work by seven artists whose aim is not the traditional making of art objects per se; their pieces become means rather than products which vary and/or cannot be physically bound. The artists in DIMENSIONS VARIABLE seek to explore the ephemeral, elusive, and undefinable by creating and utilizing specific substances and objects with little or no "art" identity: light, prisms, water, motors, plastic, wires and gas. In so doing the artists achieve phenomena not commonly visible in art and are able to express observations and ideas that resist verbalization -- these means challenge the viewer to "see" what is not physically there.

Each of the seven artists works from a distinctly individual approach to convey a condensed segment of an ephemeral event. Jim Clark combines water, air, and electricity, situating light sources in unorthodox and even potentially harmful contexts. Gary Justis constructs tripodal, motorized light machines of plastic and scientific hardware and components. Cork Marcheschi sets up dynamic cascades of sparks emanating from systems of fine black wires and simple transformers draped on ceilings and along walls. Ann Knutson bends, folds, and cuts paper and plastic shapes and adjusts lighting to reveal and stabilize shadows. Stephen Miller chooses unusual materials which dictate his explorations of projected color and depth. Carlton Newton makes sculptures that are simple, dynamic forms roughly assembled; they have the look of crude, primitive inventions. Mike Roddy rolls newspaper sheets into balls, arranges them in cannonball-like piles and then reverses the process by unrolling them and

arranging them in large inverted mound configurations.

The artists were chosen by The New Museum's curatorial staff, Susan Logan, Allan Schwartzman and Kathleen Thomas, with the collaboration of Marcia Tucker, Director. The illustrated catalog includes an extensive essay by Logan, Schwartzman and Thomas.

This exhibition is supported by grants from the Jerome Foundation and from the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, D.C., a Federal agency, and is made possible in part by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts.

We hope you will attend our press preview, Friday September 28 from 2 to 4 p.m. at The New Museum, 65 Fifth Avenue (between 13th and 14th Streets). For further information, please contact Maureen Stewart (212)741-8962.