



September 13 - December 29, 1991

THE INTER RUPTED LIFE

The New Museum

OF CONTEMPORARY ART

583 Broadway between Prince and Houston
New York, NY 10012 Call (212) 219 1355

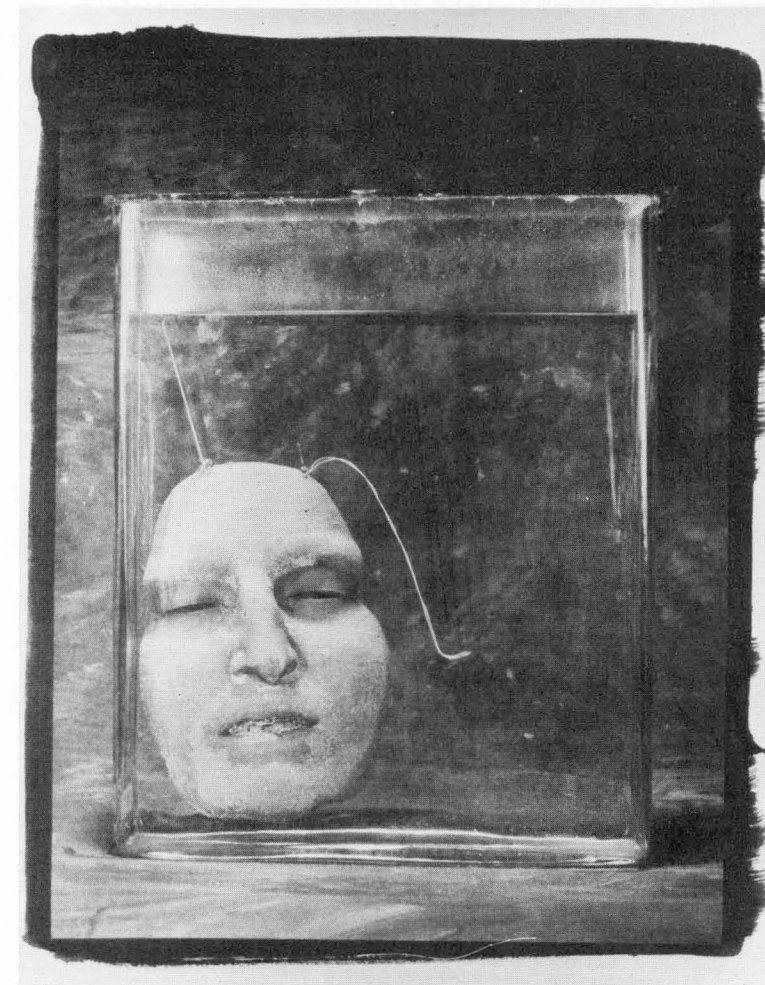
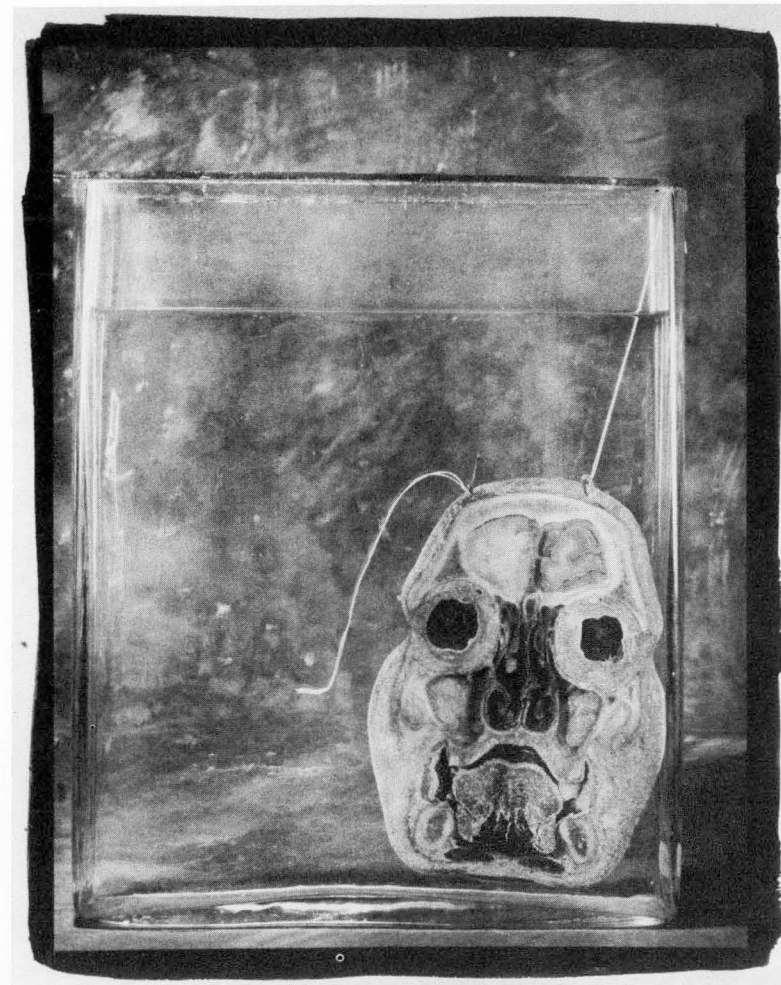
September 13 through December 29, 1991

THE INTERRUPTED LIFE

As the mechanisms for responding to death have become increasingly sanitized and impersonal in the twentieth century, our society has become unable to acknowledge or cope directly with the prospect of human mortality. At the same time, scientific developments have blurred the distinction between life and death, calling our established values into question. THE INTERRUPTED LIFE considers these and other social, political, and aesthetic issues which surround the theme of death in the Western world.

Organized by Senior Curator France Morin, THE INTERRUPTED LIFE brings together installations, photography, sculpture, painting, video, and film by 42 artists. Framed by both contemporary and historical documentation and a small selection of cultural artifacts, including nineteenth-century postmortem photographs which served as romanticized memorials of the deceased, THE INTERRUPTED LIFE explores how the significance of death is translated into different contemporary practices.

A wide range of issues related to death—ranging from suicide, disease, torture, war, and terrorism to myths, rituals, religion, and the media's depiction of death—will be addressed through a number of projects realized specially for the exhibition by such artists as Geneviève Cadieux, Larry Clark, Eugenio Dittborn, Ronald Jones, Donald Moffett, and Kiki Smith. The collaborative team of Hilton Als and Darryl Turner will create an installation in the Museum's Window on Broadway about friendship and AIDS. A project by John Lekay, examining the technology of cryonic suspension, will include an actual cryonic tank, used to "freeze" and thus preserve bodies for future improvements in medical treatment. Amalia Mesa-Bains will construct an



installation that draws from the Chicano tradition of altars for the dead. Visitors will be asked to contribute to a "living altar" created in collaboration with Mesa-Bains. THE INTERRUPTED LIFE will also feature the New York premiere of Peter Greenaway's film *Death in the Seine*. Other artists in the exhibition are Gwen Akin & Allan Ludwig, Antonin Artaud, Josef Beuys, Nayland Blake, Christian Boltanski, Victor Bouillon, Sophie Calle, Mary Carlson, Sarah Charlesworth, Hans Danuser, Jimmy DeSana, Orshi Drozdik, Marlene Dumas, Jimmie Durham, Laura Fields, Adam Fuss, Mona Hatoum, Tadeusz Kantor, Bruce Nauman, Elaine Reichek, Bastienne Schmidt, Jeffrey Silverthorne, Cam Slocum, Jolie Stahl, Mladen Stilinović, James Van Der Zee, Andy Warhol, Brian Weil, Frederick Wiseman, and David Wojnarowicz.

A book will be published to accompany the exhibition featuring an introduction by France Morin, seven essays, a section of artist's projects, and interviews on the subject of death with, among others, a doctor, a Holocaust survivor, a bioethicist, morticians, and advocates of cryonic suspension.

An array of educational projects will be presented as part of the exhibition. Please see the calendar for descriptions of all the programs.

Several projects in THE INTERRUPTED LIFE are presented as part of The New Museum's On View Program, which is funded in part by the Jerome Foundation, The Greenwall Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. The exhibition has also been funded by The International Cultural Relations/External Affairs and International Trade Canada; the Canadian Consulate General in New York; (AFA) Association Française d'Action Artistique, Ministère des affaires étrangères; and the Yugoslav Press and Cultural Center. Special assistance has been provided by Galerie de France, Fritz Dietl of Radix Group International, Galerie Paul Andriess, and Jack Tilton Gallery.

Left: Gwen Akin and Allan Ludwig, *Sliced Face in a Jar, No. 1* and *Sliced Face in a Jar, No. 2*, 1985. Platinum palladium prints. Each 11" x 14". Photos courtesy of the artists.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



Papa Geda, the vodou spirit of death, sex, and humor, will be discussed by Karen Brown on October 15. Here, a female devotee in Haiti is possessed by Papa Geda.

TICKET ORDER FORM

SEATING IS LIMITED. TICKETS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE MUSEUM ADMISSIONS DESK.

Please make checks payable to:
The New Museum of Contemporary Art
Mail to: TICKETS, The New Museum of Contemporary Art
583 Broadway New York, NY 10012

Please enclose stamped, self-addressed envelope, completed order form, and check or money order.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Day time phone _____

- I am currently a member of The New Museum.
 I am not a member, but want to join with this order.
 See reverse of this form for membership information.
 I am not a member.

PROGRAMS & EVENTS	# of tickets	general	members	subtotal
Sept. 14 A Fantasy Encounter	___	x \$7 / \$5	=	___
Sept. 24 Love Colder Than Death	___	x \$7 / \$5	=	___
Oct. 8 Dancing With the Gods	___	x \$15 / \$10	=	___
Oct. 15 Papa Geda: Vodou Spirit	___	x \$7 / \$5	=	___
Oct. 26 A Fantasy Encounter	___	x \$7 / \$5	=	___
Oct. 29 Regret to Inform	___	x \$7 / \$5	=	___
Nov. 15 Death and Supernatural	___	x \$7 / \$5	=	___
Dec. 6 Linda's Last Performance	___	x \$7 / \$5	=	___
Dec. 7 A Fantasy Encounter	___	x \$7 / \$5	=	___

For assistance and/or ticket information, call the Museum. TOTAL \$ _____

SEPTEMBER

MEMBERS' RECEPTION for THE INTERRUPTED LIFE

12 September, Thursday 7:30 to 9:00

THE INTERRUPTED LIFE opens to the public

13 September, Friday noon

A FANTASY ENCOUNTER WITH DYING

14 September, Saturday 2:00 \$7 general / \$5 members

To probe the personal meanings of mortality, Chaplain Myron Ebersole of the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center in Pennsylvania, who works with terminally ill people, will guide visitors in a meditative fantasy.

LOVE IS COLDER THAN DEATH

24 September, Tuesday 7:00 \$7 general/\$5 members

An evening of readings organized by artist Hilton Als, featuring writer Lisa Kennedy, playwright Suzan-Lori Parks, artist Darryl Turner, and Als.

REAL LIFE AND DEATH

28 September, Saturday Free

What place does art hold in the face of "real life" experiences with death? Can art be as powerful as the media's spectacularization of death? France Morin, curator of THE INTERRUPTED LIFE will conduct interviews with interested visitors. Please call for more information.

OCTOBER

HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER AND STUDENT WORKSHOP

2 October, Wednesday 3:00 to 4:30 Free

Students are surrounded by depictions of death all the time. Many have faced actual loss. What does death mean to teenagers? This workshop uses works in THE INTERRUPTED LIFE as catalysts for discussion.

ARTFAIR

6 October, Sunday (rain date: October 13)

Visit The New Museum's information table at this second annual community fair along lower Broadway.

DANCING WITH THE GODS: A SANTERIA PERSPECTIVE

8 October, Tuesday 6:00 to 9:00 \$15 general/\$10 members

Migene Gonzalez-Wippler, cultural anthropologist and author of many books on mysticism and religion, will conduct a workshop introducing Santeria through visual images, music, and dance.

PAPA GEDA: VODOU SPIRIT OF DEATH, SEXUALITY, & HUMOR

15 October, Tuesday 7:00 \$7 general/\$5 members

Karen Brown, Professor of Sociology, Anthropology, and Religion at Drew University and author of *Mama Lola: A Vodou Priestess in Brooklyn* (University of California Press), will discuss traditional Haitian attitudes toward suffering and death. Mama Lola is tentatively scheduled to appear.

A FANTASY ENCOUNTER WITH DYING (See September 14)

26 October, Saturday 2:00 \$7 general/\$5 members

FALL AND WINTER 1991

REGRET TO INFORM (See November 2)

29 October, Tuesday 7:00 \$7 general/\$5 members

Barbara Sonneborn, a filmmaker whose husband was killed in the Vietnam War, will present, with associate producer Kathy Brew, clips from their film in progress on American and Vietnamese widows of the war. They will also lead a discussion on the impact of war on women and women on war, bringing their experiences to bear on the recent war in the Persian Gulf.

NOVEMBER

REGRET TO INFORM INTERVIEWS (See October 29)

2 November, Saturday Free

Barbara Sonneborn and Kathy Brew are seeking to interview widows of war, and women whose lives have been profoundly impacted by war.

DEATH AND THE SUPERNATURAL (See November 16)

15 November, Friday 7:00 \$7 general/\$5 members

David Hufford, Director of the Center for Humanistic Medicine at Hershey Medical Center, will discuss cross-cultural beliefs in the supernatural, such as out-of-body experiences, visitations by deceased loved ones, and near-death experiences.

DEATH AND THE SUPERNATURAL INTERVIEWS (See November 15)

16 November, Saturday Free

Visitors are invited to be interviewed by David Hufford about their supernatural experiences.

REAL LIFE AND DEATH (see September 28)

23 November, Saturday Free

DECEMBER

A DAY WITHOUT ART

1 December, Sunday

The Museum marks this day of action and mourning in response to the AIDS crisis. Please call the Museum for more information.

LINDA'S LAST PERFORMANCE (See back panel)

6 December, Friday 8:00 \$7 general/\$5 members

Performance marking the conclusion of Linda Montano's seven-year project.

LINDA MONTANO'S 7 YEARS OF LIVING ART

7 December, Saturday noon to 5:30 Free

Linda Montano's last day of counseling on art and life.

A FANTASY ENCOUNTER WITH DYING (See September 14)

7 December, Saturday 2:00 \$7 general/\$5 members

REAL LIFE AND DEATH (See September 28)

21 December, Saturday Free

THE INTERRUPTED LIFE closes

29 December, Sunday 6:00



Barbara Sonneborn and Kathy Brew will present their film in progress on women and war on October 29 and will conduct interviews on November 2 for the film.

HIGH SCHOOL ART PROJECT

How does death impact on the lives of young people in New York City? Artworks produced by public high school students in conjunction with THE INTERRUPTED LIFE will be exhibited in December at 44 Worth Street, offices of the New York City Department of Transportation. This project is being conducted through the Museum's High School Art Education Program in cooperation with the Board of Education's Offsite Educational Services and the Department of Transportation's Office of Community Affairs.

THE NEW MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

583 Broadway between Houston and Prince Streets New York, NY 10012 Call (212) 219 1355 for info.

DIRECTIONS

Subway: Lexington Ave. line (#6) to Spring St. or Bleecker St.; Broadway line (N/R) to Prince St.; 8th Ave. line (A/C/E) to Spring St.; 6th Ave. line (B/D/Q/F) to Broadway/Lafayette.
 Bus: #1/#5/#6/#21 to Houston St. or Broadway

HOURS

Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday: Noon to 6:00
 Friday and Saturday: Noon to 8:00
 Monday and Tuesday: closed

SUGGESTED ADMISSION

\$3.50 general; \$2.50 artists/students/seniors; Members and children under 12, free.

LIBRARY The Soho Center Library at The New Museum has developed into one of the most important resource centers in New York City for the study of contemporary art and issues. Since its founding in 1985, the Library has amassed over 12,000 volumes. Of special note is an easily accessible selection of materials pertaining to the current exhibitions. The Library is a free, non-lending resource center. Appointments are preferred.

GROUP VISITS Group visits are available for adult groups and for school groups grades 7 through 12. Gallery talks for visiting groups are provided free of charge in order to stimulate active inquiry into issues in contemporary art and culture through close examination of the Museum's exhibitions. For more information, or to arrange a visit, please call Phyllis Gilbert, Docent Coordinator.

ARTQUEST & INSIDE/ART

ArtQuest is the Museum's collector's forum: a knowledgeable group ranging from experienced collectors to those who are simply interested in contemporary art and share a commitment to new and challenging developments in the

field. In addition to a wide range of special activities that comes with membership, ArtQuest provides invaluable support for the Museum's exhibitions and programs. Membership is \$1,500. For information on joining this group, please call Aleya Saad, Special Events Coordinator.

Inside/Art is a group of younger art enthusiasts, who meet to view, discuss, and learn about contemporary art through a variety of entertaining educational events. Membership is \$200. For information on joining, please call Maren Hensler, Inside/Art Coordinator.

INTERNSHIPS VOLUNTEERS Museum internships are designed to provide hands-on training in arts management for qualified students. They are offered in various departments throughout the year and give students a comprehensive overview of Museum operations. For more information, please call Anne Naldrett, Intern Coordinator. The Museum also welcomes volunteers to help with a range of behind-the-scenes activities including the gala spring benefit and exhibition openings. To volunteer, please call Richard Barr, Volunteer Coordinator.

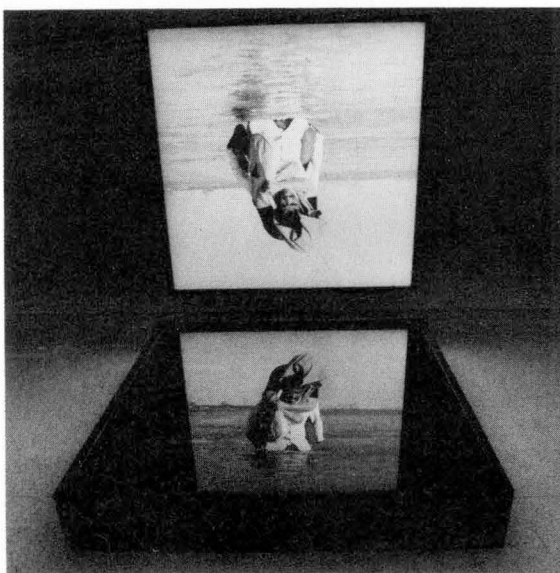
O N G O I N G

P R O G R A M S

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

Opening on January 15, 1992, *1 + 1 + 1: Works by Alfredo Jaar* is an exhibition of this New York-based, Chilean-born conceptual artist who combines photography, architecture, and aspects of theater in his light box installations. This presentation is organized by The New Museum in conjunction with the San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art. Also on view will be *The Big Nothing ou Le Presque Rien*, an exhibition of artworks which mirror or camouflage the gallery space, new works by Jeffrey Mitchell, and an installation by Nancy Burson.

Left: Alfredo Jaar, *Coyote!* 1988,
Light box with color transparency, pool, water.
Overall dimension 72" x 60" x 72".



Cover: Sarah Charlesworth, *Unidentified Woman, Hotel Corona, Madrid*, 1979-80. Photographic blow-up. 79 x 42". Photo courtesy of the artist.

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ELLEN JAFFE

LINDA'S LAST PERFORMANCE

To celebrate and mark the conclusion of *7 Years of Living Art*, an ongoing performance project of art/life counseling, Linda Montano will present a 49-minute tribute to the seven chakras—key energy centers for psychic, spiritual, and physical powers in Indian philosophy. This event will draw its performers from the Museum staff, friends of the artist, and regular art/life counselees. On Saturday, December 7, Montano will appear one final time in the Mercer Street Window, reading palms and dispensing advice on the art of everyday life.

7 Years of Living Art is a project of the Museum's On View Program, which is funded, in part, by the Jerome Foundation, The Greenwall Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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