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THE NEW MUSEUM PRESENTS RETROSPECTIVE OF THE WORK OF HANS HAACKE

"Hans Haacke: Unfinished Business," the first major retrospective exhibition of the work of this controversial conceptual artist to be presented in the United States, will be on view December 12 through February 15, 1987 in the main gallery of The New Museum of Contemporary Art. The exhibition includes 12 large-scale installations spanning 15 years of the artist's career, and is highlighted by two new works Haacke created for The New Museum space.

In his work, Haacke recognizes and manipulates the interconnectedness of political systems as a formalized means of power and control. As a result, he has developed a mode of expression that reveals these discreet relationships in order to foster understanding and promote change. Many of his works focus on themes such as the significance of advertising in contemporary society, the position of corporate sponsorship in shaping culture and the interrelationship of art and politics. Works featured in the exhibition that illustrate these concerns include Shapolsky et al. Manhattan Real Estate Holdings, a Real-Time Social System, as of May 1, 1971, which caused the cancellation of Haacke's scheduled exhibition at the Guggenheim that

Hans Haacke Retrospective at The New Museum 2-2-2

year; Oelgemaelde, Hommage à Marcel Broodthaers, 1982, juxtaposing a portrait of Ronald Reagan with a large photomural of local anti-nuclear demonstrations; Taking Stock (unfinished), 1983-84, addressing issues of power, prestige and advertising; MetroMobiltan, 1985, focusing on corporate sponsorship of the arts; and The Right to Life, 1979, which investigates the social responsibility of corporations. A printed piece produced in conjunction with the exhibition will appear in the January 1987 issue of Manhattan, Inc. magazine.

The exhibition is accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue co-published by M.I.T. Press. Essays by Rosalyn Deutsche, Hans Haacke, Fredric Jameson, Leo Steinberg and exhibition curator Brian Wallis augment a full documentation of the past 15 years of Haacke's career.

Following its presentation at The New Museum, "Hans Haacke: Unfinished Business" will travel to selected museums in the United States and Canada. Among the institutions scheduled to present the exhibition are the Mendel Art Gallery in Saskatchewan, Canada, the La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art in La Jolla, California and the Lowe Art Museum in Gainesville, Florida. Additional institutions to be announced.

The New Museum of Contemporary Art is located at 583 Broadway between Prince and Houston Streets in Soho. Hours are Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday, noon to 6 p.m.; Friday, noon to 10 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 8 p.m. The Museum is closed Monday and Tuesday. Admission is by suggested contribution: \$2.50 general, \$1.50 students, artists and senior citizens. Members and children under 12 free.