

Contact: Sara Palmer, Director of Public Affairs
Steven Henry, Public Affairs Assistant
212/219-1222 FAX: 212/431-5328

RECENT WORK BY ANNETTE LEMIEUX ON VIEW AT THE NEW MUSEUM

Annette Lemieux: The Appearance of Sound, an installation of six multi-media works on canvas exploring the theme of sound, will be on view at The New Museum of Contemporary Art from December 8, 1989 through February 4, 1990. This will be the artist's first solo exhibition in a New York museum.

Lemieux uses a wide variety of styles to explore the meanings and functions of cultural conventions and symbols. Her use of unexpected juxtapositions of images and her poetically charged titles generate powerful emotional responses from familiar material.

For The Appearance of Sound, Lemieux has created six works in which sound is the primary theme. Each of these works has as its foundation a large canvas upon which a photographically derived images has been painted and to which objects have been added. These images include Edgar Bergen with his dummy Charlie McCarthy, children "listening" to the vibrations of a piano, the pounding boots of marching soldiers, a radio announcer at his microphone, a thundering waterfall, and the nuclear explosion at Nagasaki. As in her earlier work, collaged elements interplay with the central image to spark unexpected associations.

In Stampede (1989), for example, the legs and boots of a corps of soldiers are seen marching in cadence. In the center of the canvas is placed a large wooden door covered by a list of thirty-two phrases referring to animal groupings: "an army of ants," "a swarm of bees," "a siege of herons," "a knot of toads," to name a few. The images, the text, and the title suggest parallels between human

and animal socialization. As in Stampede, other pieces in The Appearance of Sound seem to have political overtones. Lemieux's work, however, resists simple interpretation. Each work retains inherent ambiguity which allows for layers of meaning.

Annette Lemieux: The Appearance of Sound was organized by The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, The State Museum of Art, Sarasota, Florida. This exhibition has been sponsored by a grant from the John E. Galvin Charitable Trust with additional funding provided by contributions to The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art Foundation. Funding for The Appearance of Sound at The New Museum has been generously provided by Arthur and Carol Goldberg and Samuel and Ronnie Heyman.

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 PM; Friday and Saturday, noon to 8 PM; Monday and Tuesday, closed. Admission is by suggested contribution: \$3.50 general; \$2.50 artists/students/seniors; members and children under 12, free. Recorded information on exhibitions and programs is available by phoning 212/219-1355.