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COMMUNIQUE

Carla B. Guttman

REQUIEM by Carla B. Guttman at Gallery TM and Usine C. For the love of theatre.

Native Montréaler Carla B. Guttman brings her passion for the theatre to Gallery TM, from December 11, 2002 to January 18th, 2003, and to Usine C from May 13th to June 9th, 2003, during the Festival de Théâtre des Amériques. This exhibit of 50 works reveals the artist's admiration for theatre, its energy, magnetism, and symbolic richness.

Guttman has been active as a painter and sculptor for over ten years. In the last four years, she has had three solo shows at Gallery 401 in Toronto, Espace 304 and Espace 406 in Montréal. This show, entitled REQUIEM, represents her recent shift to theatre. REQUIEM consists of work ranging from found objects to three-dimensional collages, costumes, masks, theatrical models, to two six-foot photographic backdrops. Guttman considers this to be her first step towards producing theatre.

"Having been influenced by Robert Lepage, Julie Taymor, Robert Wilson, and in set design by Isamu Noguchi and Joseph Svoboda, I felt it was time to create my own palpable reality in theatre" says the artist. The result is a show of commonplace materials elevated to their dramatic counterpoint. Feathers, rocks, flower petals, glitter, moss, photographs, thumbtacks and gemstones are transformed into imaginative and ethereal worlds. Each work recreates the dream of life, conscious hopes and unconscious realities intermingled into a totality: a collage, a stage, a work of art.

Guttman received her Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts and Semiotics from Brown University in 1993. There, she wrote a thesis on the sculptor Eva Hesse and continued her work in metal sculpture and oil painting. After college, Miss Guttman continued her post-graduate studies under the American sculptor, Michael Skop. Her work belongs to the Heenan-Blaikie collection and is owned by individual collectors in Montréal, Toronto, New York, Cincinnati, San Francisco, and Paris. Guttman has also worked extensively in the film industry in Montréal, and written and directed three short films: Passages, Love's Shadow, and Le Sablier. Guttman is a grant recipient of the Conseil Des Arts et Lettres du Québec and the National Film Board of Canada.

December 11, 2002 to January 18, 2003 Gallery TM (460 Ste-Catherine Street W. suite 300)
Vernissage: Wednesday, December 11, 2002, 5:30 pm The gallery is open Wednesdays through Saturdays, noon to 5 pm. It will be closed December 25, 2002 to January 7, 2003.

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