

76 GRAND STREET NEW YORK NY 10013



**FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

JESSICA DIAMOND TRIBUTES TO KUSAMA

OCTOBER 5-26 1996

Deitch Projects is pleased to present an exhibition of exuberant new wall drawings by Jessica Diamond entitled *Tributes to Kusama*. The exhibition continues Diamond's inspired evocation of Yayoi Kusama's work and her attitude toward art.

Diamond's new wall drawings explode with color and freedom of form and further enhance the conceptual rigor of her earlier work with a new poetic quality. Upon entering the gallery space, the viewer will be surrounded by the artist's vision as the images rise from the floor toward the ceiling. Diamond reinvigorates painting through her fresh approach to the medium. The artist's tribute to Kusama is, to quote the critic Ralph Rugoff, "not one of emulation, but of relation. It reaches out to make deeply felt connections, and in prompting us to discover, or rediscover,

Kusama's art, it also attempts to excavate part of the still-suppressed history of women artists."

In a recent essay on Diamond's work for *At The Edge of Painting*, an exhibition at the Kunsthalle Bern (1995), Ralph Rugoff wrote that, "Diamond uniquely transforms the wall drawing into an apt medium for paying tribute. Like true love, its dimensions are always variable, as each work is scaled to the feel of the space where it will temporarily reside. Forsaking the precious individual status of the collectible, the drawing becomes part of the wall, an evanescent creation that reminds us that an art—like any object of our love—cannot be possessed, but resides ultimately in our experience and the use we make of it."

This exhibition is presented in association with Jeanne Greenberg

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