

**FOR  
IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE**



**MARIKO MORI**

**ONENESS**

**May 10 - June 28, 2003**

**Opening Saturday May 10, 6-9pm**

**18 Wooster Street**

Deitch Projects is pleased to present *Oneness*, an exhibition of new work by Mariko Mori. The exhibition coincides with the Public Art Fund's installation of Mori's *Wave UFO*. *Oneness* features two bodies of work, both related to the *Wave UFO* project.

*Oneness* is a sculpture of six "alien" figures, linking hands in a circle. The aliens connote otherness, but are irresistibly attractive, encouraging the viewer to kneel down and hug them. When the viewer participates in the work by hugging the figures and welcoming them, the aliens' eyes light up and their hearts start beating. When all six are hugged at once the base lights up as well. The figures are made with Technogel, a high tech flexible material molded onto a metal armature.

*Oneness* is an allegory of connectedness, a representation of the disappearance of boundaries between the self and others. It is a symbol of the acceptance of otherness and a model for overcoming national and cultural borders. It also is a representation of the Buddhist concept of oneness, of the world existing as one interconnected organism.

*Connected World*, the other major new work in the exhibition, is a series of six circular photopaintings in opalescent cast acrylic frames. The work was developed

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from a series of paintings that served as the storyboard for the immersive video that is projected in the interior dome of the *Wave UFO*. The paintings were reworked with computer graphics and then transformed into photographs. The works represent the artist's vision of a connected world, depicting a sequence of deeper dimensions of consciousness and connectedness. Mori's concept of connectedness applies not only to humans, but to every living being. *Connected World* is an example of her unique fusion of artistic media into a single object. The work combines painting, computer graphics, photography and sculpture.

*Oneness* represents Mariko Mori's progression toward a deeper level of abstraction. Her presence has been dematerialized and is now embodied within the work. The work retains an element of performance, which is activated through the viewer's participation.

The *Wave UFO*, presented by the Public Art Fund and sponsored by Bloomberg is on view at 590 Madison Avenue at 56<sup>th</sup> Street from May 10 – July 31, concurrently with the Deitch Projects exhibition.

Mariko Mori's work was the subject of a solo exhibition, *Empty Dream*, at the Brooklyn Museum in 1999. During the past three years, solo exhibitions of her work have been presented by the Kunsthaus Bregenz, Austria, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, and Fondazione Prada, Milan.

**GALLERY HOURS 12 - 6, TUESDAY – SATURDAY  
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT  
JULIA CHIANG AT 212-343-7300**