

**FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**



**MICHAL ROVNER
OVERHANG**

**A Video Projection on 17 Windows at
410 Park Avenue
March 23 – May 29, 2000**

Deitch Projects is pleased to present *Overhang*, a symphonic video work by Michal Rovner projected through seventeen windows of the Chase Manhattan Bank branch at 410 Park Avenue at 55th Street. The installation opens on March 23rd and continues through May 29, 2000. It will be visible every evening from sunset until 2:00 AM.

Overhang is a monumental work, which represents a breakthrough in the language of video art. It extends beyond the conventional space of video projection to take on an architectural scale. The imagery moves freely from window to window, giving the work a fluidity beyond anything seen before in video. *Overhang* will be seen by the thousands of people who drive and walk up and down Park Avenue every evening. It takes video art out of the museum and into the street.

Overhang is an experience in opposite extremes: extreme cold and extreme heat, solidity and fragility, naturalism and fabrication. The work was filmed in both the harsh winter of New York and the intense heat of the Middle Eastern desert. It explores a zone of uncertainty between being and nothingness where memories, fantasies and reality are confused. The critic Susan Kandel has described Rovner's imagery as "memories subjected to perpetual retracing," writing that "Rovner does not concern herself with questions of truth, but rather with the lure of uncertainty." *Overhang* probes this fluid reality to capture the intensity of human experience. The viewer feels both the

connection and the disconnection between the figure and the landscape. In an essay written to accompany Rovner's exhibition at the Tate Gallery in 1997, Frances Morris described how "Rovner pries open the gap between what you see, what you know, and what you feel."

An earlier version of *Overhang* was presented to great acclaim at the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam in September 1999. It was projected through the ground floor windows of the museum's new wing, where it was visible from the street and attracted a large audience. The work has been re-edited for the large two story windows of the Chase Manhattan Bank branch at 410 Park Avenue. The Park Avenue installation of *Overhang* is an extension of Rovner's video projection that will be on view concurrently in the 2000 Whitney Biennial.

Michal Rovner was born in Israel in 1957 and has lived in New York since 1988. Her work blurs the line between painting, photography, video, and computer imaging, defying conventional classification by medium. She fuses a range of media to reach toward a new kind of contemporary expressionism.

The Chase Manhattan Bank has a distinguished history of contemporary art patronage. The 410 Park Avenue branch is a notable example of Gordon Bunshaft's modernist architecture. The branch is also known for its Alexander Calder mobile, which can be seen from the street. During the time of Rovner's exhibition, the Calder mobile will be on view at the Queens Museum in "Art at Work", an exhibition celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Chase Manhattan Art Collection. The presentation of *Overhang* at the Chase Manhattan Bank 410 Park Avenue branch is due to the extraordinary initiative and support of Manuel Gonzalez and Stacy Gershon of the Chase Manhattan Art Program and Peter Plimpton, the Branch Manager.

Eyal Ofer, the primary sponsor of the installation of *Overhang*, along with the Chase Manhattan Bank, is a principal of the company that owns 410 Park Avenue. He is a prominent collector of contemporary art.

Deitch Projects specializes in ambitious projects by international contemporary artists, producing works for public spaces and for its SoHo galleries.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT AMALIA DAYAN AT
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