

STEPHEN WIRTZ GALLERY

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LUCY PULS

At This Place

Exhibition dates: March 2-April 16, 2005

Opening reception for the artist Thursday, March 3, 2005, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Stephen Wirtz Gallery announces *At This Place*, an exhibition of a new series of mixed-media sculptural installations by Lucy Puls. In these new works, Puls, who is known for mining thrift stores to gather materials for her work, continues to examine the unwanted and discarded objects of present day culture.

In this exhibition, Puls has turned her attention to the proliferation of displaced and abandoned domestic items and appliances discovered in her own Berkeley neighborhood. Through documenting these items in their physical space with a photography-based process and then combining these images with 3D adornments that covertly reference the particular item's attributes, Puls creates a cycle of information that raises questions about the definition of tangible reality versus one's individual perception of the real world.

The central component of each installation is a sheet of sheer fabric revealing a photographic image of a used mattress, kitchen stove, or unwanted chair in the urban environment. This is loosely draped on the wall and supported by fake foliage--plastic plants, plastic fruit and silk flowers--installed both behind and in front of the fabric creating a dimensional illusion that is intended to reference the temporal process of memory. In one installation a telephone receiver dangles from its cord suspended from behind the central image. In another, a black light is employed. While the object combinations might at first seem random and even absurd, they create an arresting presentation that serves to awaken subconscious connections between the objects and to provoke an examination of how we draw up and re-order information.

LUCY PULS received her B.S. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and her M.F.A. from Rhode Island School of Design. Puls' work has been exhibited internationally and she is represented in numerous collections including San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Oakland Museum, the Kent and Vicki Logan Collection, and the Progressive Art Collection, Mayfield Village, OH. Puls is a Professor of Art at University of California, Davis.

Stephen Wirtz Gallery is located at 49 Geary St., 3rd Fl., San Francisco, CA 94108, (415) 433-6879. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Friday, 9:30-5:30, Saturday 10:30-5:30.

For additional information please contact Julie Casemore, Tel.: (415) 433-6879, julie@wirtzgallery.com