

Exhibition Information

Ann Lislegaard The Space Between Us

20 April – 9 June 2002

Ann Lislegaard's works offer an experience of being transported elsewhere. They exploit our desire to understand and to navigate our surroundings. Her installations utilise sound and light to create highly charged atmospheric installations.

'**Empty, the Room Seems Large to Me**', the small photograph at the gallery entrance, gives a sense of the subject of the picture being disembodied, existing in more than one space at the same time. The subject is captured with her eyes closed in a state of deep contemplation, thinking of elsewhere. At once she appears confined behind glass and yet the reflection in the window gives a sense of a wider space, suggesting the transience and limitlessness of our dreams and imagination.

On the opposite wall, Lislegaard's photographic triptych '**Ontario**' plays upon our instinctive curiosity. The parting blinds give glimpses of other spaces, a private interior and wide open exteriors. The images arouse our interest, suggesting that something significant could be about to or has already happened.

As with many of her works '**!**', which incorporates a red spot-light and accompanying audio soundtrack, feels somehow very private and intimate. The sound is ambiguous, articulating an extreme emotion but we cannot be sure whether this is shock, pleasure or revelation. The red spot provides a visual point on which we can focus but this also shifts.

In '**Corner Piece – The Space Between Us**' the subject of the recorded dialogue that whispers incessantly from the structure gradually shifts from *I* to *you* to *her*. This implicates us firmly within the

narrative structure, as well as the physical structure of the installation. The description alternates between the real space of the gallery and an unknown imaginary space in which the intervention in the gallery becomes room. Through the combined use of recorded sound and flickering light there is a sense of the space being both public and private simultaneously.

Each of the works in the exhibition can be simultaneously compelling and disturbing, seductive and disconcerting.

'The experience of Ann Lislegaard's work could recall the feeling of wandering alone in a dark forest and dreaming, or of seeing a really good film: they all offer a kind of transference, a temporary trip into another state.'

Maria Lind

Ann Lislegaard (b.1962) lives and works in Copenhagen and New York. This is her first solo exhibition in Britain.

**We are grateful to the
Danish Contemporary Art Foundation
for its support of this exhibition.**