

136 Wooster Street  
New York NY 10012  
212.228.2828 tel  
212.228.2878 fax

## Gagosian Gallery

February 19, 1999

### PRESS RELEASE

#### **GAGOSIAN GALLERY**

136 Wooster Street TEL (212) 228-2828

New York, NY 10012 FAX (212) 228-2878

GALLERY HOURS: Tuesday – Saturday 10:00am–6:00pm

## **Douglas Gordon: *through a looking glass***

Saturday, March 6 – Saturday, April 10, 1999

Gagosian Gallery is pleased to announce the opening of an exhibition by the Scottish artist Douglas Gordon. The downtown Gagosian Gallery will present a major new work - *through a looking glass* - consisting of two large-scale video projections which quote one of Hollywood's most memorable scenes. Using a monologue from Martin Scorsese's "Taxi Driver," Gordon traps the viewer between two images of Travis Bickle, one 'real' and the other a 'reflection of the real'. The projections appear at first to be mirror images of one another but they quickly trip out of sync and into a manic dialogue which bounces around the gallery, both visually and audibly.

The exhibition is accompanied by a publication that includes a screenplay by Hal Hartley the filmmaker, composed from e-mail messages between him and Douglas Gordon and an essay by film critic Amy Taubin, who will publish a book about "Taxi Driver" early next year. About the piece, Taubin states:

In *through a looking glass*, Travis aims at himself and at us from two sides. And again and again. Deprived of our secure place in the theater or living room, we are much more vulnerable to Travis's rage and violence and to the echo it calls up within ourselves. Gordon doesn't allow us the comparative safety of going all the way through the looking glass into a topsy turvy world that has its own kind of reverse logic. Instead he traps us inside the two faces of the glass where the pronouns "you" and "me" fly around our heads like bullets and we don't know which part of ourselves to protect first.

In 1996 Gordon won the Turner Prize at the Tate Gallery, London for his innovative use of film, video and text. In 1997 he received the Premio 2000 at the Venice Biennale and last year he was awarded the Hugo Boss Prize at the Guggenheim Museum, New York.

He currently has major solo exhibitions at the Neue Nationalgalerie in Berlin and Centro Cultural de Belém in Lisbon, Portugal. While in New York one can see his work at the Dia Center for the Arts, in the exhibition "Double Vision", until June 13, 1999.

For more information about the exhibition please call Kay Pallister at Gagosian Gallery at (212) 744 2313.