

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

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PRESS RELEASE

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

555 WEST 24TH STREET

NEW YORK NY 10011

GALLERY HOURS:

T. 212.741.1111

F. 212.741.9611

Tue – Sat 10:00am– 6:00pm

Douglas Gordon: *Play Dead; Real Time*

Saturday, February 22 – Saturday, March 29, 2003

Opening reception: Saturday, February 22nd, 6 – 8pm

Gagosian Gallery is pleased to announce the opening of **Douglas Gordon: *Play Dead; Real Time***. The exhibition will consist of three new large-scale video projection works.

For these monumental works Gordon uses a giant Indian elephant as the subject being filmed. The elephant has classically symbolized memory, and here functions as a trope for our own remembrances of circuses, zoos, and nature documentaries, various situations where the chaotic power of the wild is held safely at a distance and is controlled. As the title suggests, the elephant appears to conform to command and lie on its side before attempting to return to its feet. The impossibility of the idea, and the incapability to occupy both states simultaneously are reminiscent of the artist's continuing investigations of the polarities between control and free will, life and death.

“My work is more about researching, about memory, about stories that happened, films I saw... I'm interested in finding out what happens when you look at something so long, it disappears. You look at a picture, you start looking through the picture and you get to the other side- and then you go back to the front view. “

-Douglas Gordon, 1999

Douglas Gordon recently had his first major traveling exhibition in North America, organized by the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles. The exhibition traveled to the Art Gallery of Vancouver, Canada, and will open at the Museo Rufino Tamayo in Mexico City in March. This past winter, the Hayward Gallery in London exhibited a large survey exhibition of Gordon's work titled, “*What have I done*”.

For more information please contact the gallery.

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INFO@GAGOSIAN.COM WWW.GAGOSIAN.COM