

## SUSURATION

Galerie Powerhouse June 10 - July 2, 1989

*susuration*, like a murmur being formed from the noise, poses the possibility of transformation in the formation of fluid subject positions. As contradiction and discontinuity are seen to be the roots of reality, an idea emerges that the viewer as performer can replace the art object. Embodied in this work is the notion of nature and the material self in constant motion.

Galerie Powerhouse (a women's centre for viewing art) and Montreal (the linguistic meeting place for French and English) form the sites of this multi-media installation. Three series of drawings are presented. In different ways each series plays with the flatness of the drawing support and transgresses the boundaries imposed by the paper. Texts used as components of these drawings open the possibility for contradictory readings. Contradictions can destabilize polarities. All texts in English accompany drawing on paper. French texts presented directly on the wall and windows of the gallery make reference to the architecture as a specific location.

The architectural structures of the exhibition space are implicated in a questioning of perceptual practices through the placement of images and texts on the walls, floors, and windows. Shifts in scale and the placement of elements in spatially predetermined proximity to the viewer loosely choreograph the viewer's movement toward the drawings to see/read the details and away again to locate larger relationships.

The literal space of the gallery is also considered with the inclusion of an audio track played from two large speakers. A woman's voice, presented at an almost inaudible level, recounts fragments from the aleatoric reflections of John Cage. The effort needed to hear the spoken words signals the material presence of other gallery goers, the squeaking floor boards, the tapping of an office computer, sounds from the street, etc.

Notions of non linearity and unpredictability overlay a large graphite wall drawing of a classical balustrade through the projection of fractal images. Traditional ways of thinking, seeing, and hearing can be challenged as classical imagery is enveloped in a language of motion. Fractals speak about processes in science of becoming rather than being.

