

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Rachel bas-Cohain

Silk Organza Sculptures, 1981-82

at A.I.R. Gallery

June 4 - June 22, 1991

Opening Reception: Tuesday, June 4, 6 - 8 pm

"This exhibition re-installs the last sculptures made by Rachel bas-Cohain. They are a group of miniature, cloth objects. Each evokes a floating room filled with a few objects, or perhaps a model for a stage set crowded with oversize props and inanimate players. Both the box-shaped containers and the still life objects that fill them are fashioned out of a sheer fabric — silk organza — with just the slightest touch of powdered eye-shadow for highlighting. The sculptures are hung from the ceiling at eye-level with fine thread. Thread is also used within each piece to stabilize the interior still life. When the sculptures were first shown in April of 1982 at A.I.R. Gallery, the artist exhibited them in an arc configuration against a slate-grey background and illuminated them with blue spotlights." — Jean E. Feinberg, 1991

Rachel bas-Cohain was one of A.I.R.'s founding members and a feminist. She was active for eleven years and helped to bring to the New York public, exhibitions of women artists from Israel and Sweden. Her art was a sculptural inquiry into the nature of vision; how (well) we see, what we (choose to) look at, and how attentive we are to our observations.

A.I.R. has exhibited various segments of her work in the past. The Diane Brown Gallery, which represents her estate, has shown her work, as well, and she is in the permanent collection of the Jewish Museum. We feel that her last works must be shown again at this time because of the way these works draw attention to the fragility of life and the power of art to celebrate existence. Although she died from cancer, we are reminded of the untimely death of prominent artists and our own vulnerability today as a result of the AIDS pandemic.

For further information please call Sarah Savidge at (212) 966-0799.

This exhibition is made possible in part by funding from the  
New York State Council on the Arts and A.I.R. Gallery.

An illustrated catalogue of the artists work, published in 1984 by A.I.R. Gallery is available.



63 Crosby Street (near Spring St.), NYC 10012 212-966-0799  
Hours: Tues-Sat 11 a.m.-6 p.m.