



ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE • 111 FRONT ST, #228, BROOKLYN, NY 11201 • 212-255-6651 • WWW.AIRGALLERY.ORG

For Immediate Release

Stephanie Bernheim, *Palm Project*

May 25th – June 18th, 2011

Opening Reception: Thurs., May 26th from 6pm to 8pm

BROOKLYN, NY May 2011 – A.I.R. Gallery is pleased to announce *Palm Project*, an exhibition of new work by Stephanie Bernheim. The opening reception will be held Thursday, May 26th from 6pm – 8:30pm

To take a picture is no big deal, to take one with your telephone is the ordinary squared. The phone has become the most basic component of its composite self now outfitted with cameras, programs, tools and internet. Stephanie Bernheim's new works tease out the ambiguous space of these technologies and their capacity to create pictures wholly their own. With her Palm Pilot's camera Bernheim captures traces of travel and the meanderings of a curious eye. The photographs are illusive; often a confrontation with a singular object or moment is displaced by subjective shorthand. Like picking up the phone when someone has mistakenly dialed your number, we hear only fragments. They occupy a mysterious space between the familiar textures of the photographic and the phantom images of memory.



With a limited ability to vary line size and color, Bernheim draws on her photographs using a basic “draw on” program in her palm pilot. What is framed is a fraction of a larger picture. Shifts in color and scale transform the digital flatness of the screen into volume. Passages of high pitch color weave through the image prompting flips of figure and ground. With this anemic palate of digital tools, Bernheim's interventions remain extremely painterly. The textures of surfaces play against each other and marks accumulate. In some instances they annihilate the photograph in others they serve as a passage into it. Frequently the drawing interrupts the pleasures of recognition, but the sum total clearly captures today's accelerated frenzy of seeing and responding. After Bernheim draws on the photograph she sends herself the image, from phone to home.

These collapsed moments and mechanized gestures occupy a different time than the photographs. The notion of the autonomous gesture is deflated, the pleasure of recognition is interrupted, but its suggestion persists. Both photograph and what seems like painting are bastard versions of themselves. Throughout *Palm Project* images remain but are not what they seem.

Stephanie Bernheim lives and works in New York. She has shown at museums and galleries including P.S. 1 Museum in Long Island City, Franklin Furnace, Art Resources Transfer Inc., A.I.R. Gallery, Tricia Collins-Grand Salon, Barbara Mathes Gallery, The Delaware Center for Contemporary Art and The Milkwaukee Art Museum. Her work is in many private, public and corporate collections here and abroad.

A.I.R. Gallery is located at 111 Front Street, #228 in the DUMBO neighborhood of Brooklyn. Gallery Hours: Wed. – Sun., 11am to 6pm. For directions please visit www.airgallery.org. For more information please contact Gallery Director, Kat Griefen at 212-255-6651 or kgriefen@airgallery.org

Image: Stephanie Bernheim,