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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"TIN GODDESS," BY L.L. BALMUTH OCTOBER 3—28 1995

A.I.R. GALLERY IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE ITS FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION: "TIN GODDESS," AN INSTALLATION BY L.L. BALMUTH.

BALMUTH IS BECOMING KNOWN FOR WORK IN WHICH ART-HISTORICAL IMAGES OF THE BODY ARE JUXTAPOSED WITH DISCARDED METAL APPLIANCES AND MACHINE PARTS. SHE ARRANGES A KIND OF MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE BETWEEN THE HUMAN BODY AND ITS INDUSTRIAL SURROUNDINGS

"BEFORE THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION," SAYS BALMUTH, "HUMAN BEINGS HAD RELATIONSHIPS WITH NATURE, WITH EACH OTHER, AND WITH WILD AND DOMESTIC ANIMALS. SINCE THEN, PEOPLE LIVING IN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES HAVE EXISTED IN SURROUNDINGS THAT ARE ALMOST ENTIRELY FORMED BY HUMAN INTERVENTION. OUR HOMES AND CITIES, INSIDE AND OUTSIDE, ARE INDISTINGUISHABLE CUBES AND GRIDS, WHOSE HARD SURFACES WE HAVE COME TO DOTE UPON. MANY OF OUR MOST SIGNIFICANT AND RELATIONSHIPS ARE WITH OUR CARS, OUR COMPUTERS, THE TELEVISION, THE TELEPHONE BUT THESE SOLID OBJECTS ARE STRANGELY DISEMBODIED. EACH THING EXISTS FOR US AS PART OF A SERIES, NEVER FOR ITSELF ALONE...

THE ARTISTS OF THE PAST MONUMENTALIZED A FLEETING PHYSICAL BEAUTY. WE CREATE DURABLE CONSUMER GOODS AND THEN THROW THEM AWAY. MY WORK EXPLORES THE CORRODED PRODUCTS OF THESE CASTOFF PASSIONS. I EMBRACE AN AESTHETICS OF JUNK."