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NANCY DAVENPORT THE APARTMENTS

SEPTEMBER 6 – OCTOBER 6, 2001

OPENING RECEPTION: SEPTEMBER 6, 6–8PM



Bombardment, 2001
c-print
38.25 x 50.75 inches (framed)
97.2 x 128.9 centimeters
edition of 5

Nicole Klagsbrun Gallery is pleased to present a new series of photographs by Nancy Davenport entitled, *the apartments*, opening on September 6 through October 6, 2001.

With this new body of work, Davenport has produced haltingly beautiful large-scale images of modernist apartment facades punctured by singular incidents of terrorism and political protest. Combining a fascination with images of political actions from the history of photo journalism (i.e. Munich '72, Belfast '72, etc.) as well as images of performance art pieces of the early 1970's (i.e. Chris Burden, Dennis Oppenheim, Rebecca Horn) with a particular type of urban architecture sometimes referred to as 'no-style' modernism or 'white brick wonders', she wryly manipulates the conventions of surveillance documentation to explore a conflict between idealism and institutional forces.

The buildings serve as a stage for Davenport's solitary resistance fighters; embodying the domestication of avant-garde rhetoric and the collapse of its political function. By re-contextualizing familiar documentary moments within this architecture, she explores the boundaries between institutional and anti-institutional violence, and shows how the meanings of these actions are negotiated through their representation. As with Davenport's past work, the apartments evoke a sense of an ever-repeating dilemma not only in terms of political engagement but also regarding the medium of photography. By mimicking the documentary moment through digital collage, these images address the reoccurring *écrosis* of photography as document and its current displacement as a distinct medium.

Nancy Davenport's work has been presented by Nicole Klagsbrun Gallery in 1994 and 1995 at the gallery's previous location on Greene Street in SoHo. Most recently her *Accident Prone* series was exhibited at the Rockford Art Museum in Illinois.