



The Renaissance Society

at The University of Chicago

Detourism

November 11–December 23, 2001

Opening reception: Sunday, November 11, 2001, 4:00–7:00pm

The Renaissance Society

Museum Hours:
Tuesday - Friday: 10 am - 5pm
Saturday, Sunday: 12- 5pm
Closed Mondays

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage
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<http://www.renaissanceociety.org>

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Siemon Allen

South Africa

Siegrun Appelt

Vienna

Rebecca Baron

Los Angeles

Johanna Bresnick

New Haven

Edward Burtynsky

Toronto

Jeff Carter & Susan Giles

Chicago

Alnoor Dewshi

London

Rainer Ganahl

New York

Michelle Keim

Chicago

Suchan Kinoshita

Amsterdam

Miranda Lichtenstein

New York

Corey McCorkle

New York

David Servoss

New York

Chris Williams

Los Angeles

Expect the World™

But morning delivery is one thing. Trying to drink a cup of coffee over images of cataclysmic terror is another. Clearly, whatever expectations were implicit in the *New York Times'* advertising slogan have been superseded by recent world events. According to most headlines, it seems the world is all too rapidly coming together only to fall apart. But the world isn't simply in the newspapers you read. It is in the clothes you wear, the food you eat, the movies you see, and more than likely, the company you keep. Everything is everywhere. And by the same token, everywhere is in everything. Distant geographic points are not only linked via satellite transmission, they are also linked materially and socially through the flow of labor, commodities, refugees and tourists. Under these circumstances, allegories

of globalization can come from almost anywhere. This makes for a very restless geographical and geopolitical imagination. Between journalistic reportage, a nostalgia for the exotic, a wanderlust baited by travel ads, and the circular discourse of authenticity, artists have had to perform complex negotiations when trying to represent place. *Detourism* features the work of thirteen artists who call attention to how place is mediated through travel, translation, memory, material culture and photographic conventions. Almost all of the work in *Detourism* deals with specific places — Panama, Cambodia/Vietnam, Bali, Afghanistan, Kuala Lumpur, South Africa, Cuba, Italy, China, and Senegal. And with varying degrees of directness, all the artists provide insight into the

socio-political and cultural affairs of these locales. But more important, the work in *Detourism* is linked by the simple question, how is it possible to understand "there" from "here" particularly when, as Gertrude Stein put it, "there is no there there."

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[this side]
Afghani War Carpet
wool
11" x 30"

[that side]
Siegrun Appelt
Landscape 1 (Napoli-Roma)
1996
C-print
34" x 53"