

JAMES KELLY CONTEMPORARY - PRESS RELEASE  
1601 Paseo de Peralta - Santa Fe, NM 87501 - 505.989.1601

# Roni Horn

## Sculptures, Drawings and Photographs

Opening Reception: [Friday, August 11, 2006, 5:00-7:00 pm](#)  
Exhibition Dates: August 11, 2006 - September 30, 2006  
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Roni Horn. *Untitled (Kitty Cat)*, 2000. Two photographs on polyester, framed separately. 30 x 30".

James Kelly Contemporary is pleased to announce 'Roni Horn: Sculptures, Drawings, and Photographs.'

The exhibition presents a cross section of Roni Horn's work dating from 1985 through 2000. As a whole, her oeuvre can be understood as a musical or poetic structure in which elements are repeated and modified. Individual works may contain doubles or repeated variations within; a part of one work may also become part of another in a different format. Though her forms sometimes resemble those of minimalism, her work is distinguished by an engagement with metaphor. Horn is inspired by literature and has worked with the writing of Emily Dickinson, Wallace Stevens, Jules Verne, Flannery O'Connor and Franz Kafka.

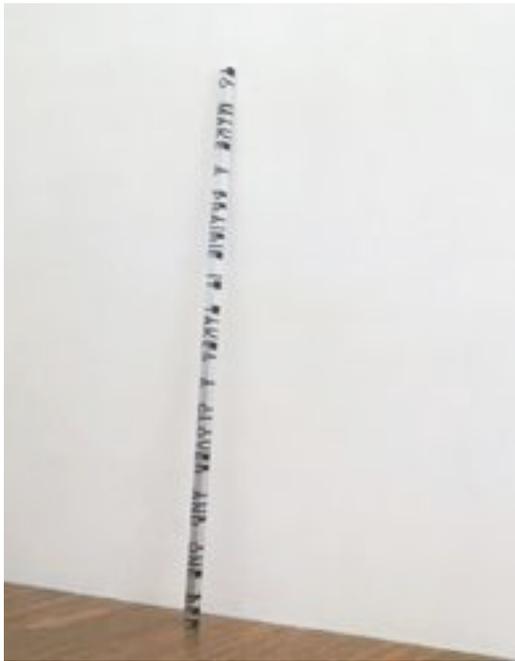
In the photograph and text work, *Still Water (The River Thames, for Example)*, photographs of the always changing river and a subjective running text by Horn elaborate the river as metaphor for the elusive nature of identity. The photograph, *Untitled (A Brink of Infinity)*, has also been part of a book titled To Place -- Book V: Verne's Journey, an allusion to Verne's novel of 1864 in which he locates the center of the earth in Iceland. Horn is attracted to the paradoxical idea of trying to

photograph the invisible. In the photographic pair *Untitled (Kitty Cat)*, Horn explores again the theme of identity with pictures of a cat from the front and back, dramatizing the inability of photography to capture the whole. The viewer also has a spatial-temporal experience because the photographs are separated from each other in the room.

Horn's sculpture is represented by pieces from the Key and Cue series based on first lines of Emily Dickinson poems. In *Key and Cue, No. 1755* ("To make a prairie it takes a clover and one bee"), and in *Key and Cue, No. 1763* ("Fame is a bee"), the black plastic text is embedded in solid aluminum vertical elements leaning against the wall. *Pair Object VI* from 1990 is another sculptural type Horn has worked with since 1980, which she indicates, relates in part to androgyny and identity. This piece consists of two identical forged and machined copper objects in the form of conical sections placed on the floor.

The exhibition also includes pigment drawings from the 1980's made by building up multiple intensely colored forms, slicing them and re-configuring the pieces in a building and editing process which privileges the act of composing over the "simple visibility" of the image.

Roni Horn, a New Yorker who studied at the Rhode Island School of Design and at Yale University, has for the past 29 years undertaken frequent journeys to Iceland which have had a major influence on her work. Since the early 80's she has exhibited her sculpture, drawings and photographs extensively, including solo museum exhibitions at the Art Institute of Chicago (2004), Centre Georges Pompidou (2003), and Dia Center for the Arts (2001). 2005-6 exhibitions include 'Portrait of an Image' at Hauser & Wirth in Zurich, 'Roni Horn. Angie and Emily Dickinson' at Museion in Bolzano, Italy, and 'Roni Horn' at Matthew Marks Gallery in New York.



*Key and Cue, No. 1755*, 1996.  
Solid aluminum and plastic. 2 x 2 x 102 ¾".



*Pair Object VI*, 1990. Solid forged and machined CR copper. Two units: 13" diameter x 11" length.



*The XXVIII*, 1988. Pigment and varnish on paper. 26 ¼ x 36".



*Still Water (The River Thames, for Example) - Image L*, 1999. Offset lithograph (photograph and text combined) on uncoated paper. 30 ½ x 41 ½".

James Kelly Contemporary is located at 1601 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe, NM 87501. Gallery hours for the duration of this show are Tuesday through Friday from 10:00-5:00 p.m. - Saturday from 12:00-5:00 p.m. - Monday by appointment. Please call the gallery at 505.989.1601 - fax 505.989.5005 - email [hannah@jameskelly.com](mailto:hannah@jameskelly.com) for more information.

- high resolution images available upon request -