

A.I.R.

GALLERY

511 WEST 25th STREET

NYC, NY 10001

TEL: 212.255.6651

FAX: 212.255.6653

www.airgallery.org

tues-sat, 11-6

For Immediate Release

Sue Hettmansperger

Chimera Series, Paintings

November 6 – December 1, 2007

Opening Reception

Thursday Nov. 8, 6pm to 8pm



New York, N. Y., September 26, 2007 - **A.I.R. Gallery** is pleased to announce *Chimera Series*, a solo exhibition of paintings by **Sue Hettmansperger**. Focusing on the nature / culture interface, the imagery references the human body, botany, digital distortion, and manufactured objects. These hybrid images acknowledge a present ethos of genetic and digital manipulation, reflecting the complex relationship of humans to their environment. The work seeks to mirror a current cultural perspective in which boundaries between organisms are increasingly blurred, and our awareness of digitally altered images makes us question the truthfulness of what we see in visual culture. Musing on the interdependence of human and botanical, organic and inorganic systems in a conflicted embrace, the series provokes thought about cultural attitudes and perceptions of our place within nature.

In the catalogue essay independent critic and artist Matt Freedman states, "Each of the four paintings that constitutes *Chimera's* core traces the body's infinitely nuanced connection to the larger natural and man-made worlds that surround and contain it. . . . The images together constitute a way we interact with the world. . . . In the end they are irreducible monads, stark anxious images that poke at the mind and the conscience at levels that rotate somewhere above and beyond consciousness."

A reception to meet the artist will be held at the gallery on Thursday, November 8, from 6pm to 8 pm, and is free and open to the public. The artist has exhibited throughout the country and teaches Painting and Drawing at the University of Iowa. She received her MA degree from the University of New Mexico in 1974 and has been affiliated with A.I.R. since 1988.

A.I.R. Gallery is located at 511 West 25th Street, Suite 301, (in Chelsea), N.Y.C. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday 11:00am - 6:00pm. For more information please contact the Director, Katherine Griefen, at (212) 255-6651, kgriefen@airnyc.org or Sue Hettmansperger at (319) 354-8712. Photos available on request at: sue-hettmansperger@uiowa.edu Artist is available for interviews.