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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JOAN SNITZER:
Letters From Home

September 7 – October 1, 2011

Reception for the artist: Thurs, Sept 8, 6-9 pm



A.I.R. Gallery is pleased to announce the opening of Joan Snitzer's exhibition entitled "Letters from Home". The show will feature paintings, drawings and wall installations from the past two years.

Joan Snitzer's projects combine renditions of traditional art materials with images and cadences observed during daily activities in the home, both mundane and profound. All of the imagery in this exhibition originates from objects and images found in common living spaces. Snitzer embodies the traditionally feminine instinct to organize, design and care for domestic spaces. Her work speaks of these impulses through the ordering of a personal visual syntax into absorbable units.

"Letters From Home" is a wall installation composed of painted canvases, common household objects, and unmediated images found in the artist's home. The images are organized within a pencil grid drawn directly on the wall. Snitzer's grids reference the flexible system developed by typographers to improve coherency of content on the page. Although grids display images in a seemingly rational way, Snitzer's imagery, when displayed within a traditional layout, ironically highlights the discordant content that we are challenged to process everyday. This work's compositional order explores moments when social or cultural experience becomes aligned (or misaligned) with personal household objects. Social relationships to intimacy and private space animate each moment.

The exhibition also includes a selection of paintings and works on paper. "Crosswords" uses the iconography of the common puzzle to organize found and created visual information. As within the installation, images have been observed in the home and techniques from the traditional (painting with egg tempera) to the contemporary (vinyl and photographic transfers) have been employed. Snitzer's crosswords' draw inspiration from her own daily experiences: "I found myself looking at the clock one morning while preparing coffee with a French press and glanced up at an image on my table of a demonstration happening in Egypt. Everything I observed was equally beautiful, designed and displayed".

Snitzer's work speaks with a sense of intimacy as well as universality about the acceleration of visual representations in our private homes. Her works comment on the competition of desires and priorities made when much of the visual information read is influenced by chance associations in timing and attention.

Joan Snitzer's paintings and drawings have been exhibited in the United States and internationally. The artist resides in New York City and this is her third solo exhibition at the Gallery. She is the Director of Visual Art at Barnard College.

A.I.R. – ADVOCATING FOR WOMEN IN THE ARTS SINCE 1972.
Gallery hours: Wednesday – Sunday, 11 am to 6pm.