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Jennifer Williams, *[FLŌ]* April 29 – May 24, 2009 Reception: Thursday, April 30 from 6pm to 8pm

BROOKLYN, NY April 2009 - A.I.R. Gallery is pleased to announce [$FL\bar{O}$] an exhibition of new work by 2008-2009 A.I.R. Gallery Fellowship Artist, **Jennifer Williams**. This is William's first solo exhibition in New York City. The opening reception will be held on **Thursday, April 30th from 6pm to 8pm.**



Overall, Jennifer Williams work is concerned with a "desire to recycle and build" in order to engage the viewer in overlooked moments from the everyday. While her collage-based installations are grounded in photography, the artist is never satisfied with the rectangular frame, but instead, like Rauschenberg, finds fresh ways to work, with, around through and over the shape, searching for the moment when the initial form "falls off."

Jennifer Williams has lived and worked in Manhattan for the last twenty years and has made the visual exploration of New York City a central theme in her work. By documenting, deconstructing and re-composing visual elements of the city she tells the stories of its inhabitants. Having worked as a carpenter and woodworker, Williams is engaged with structural concerns, especially the possibility of combining disparate elements to form a cohesive, new whole. In recent work, Williams photographs the overlooked objects of Manhattan's raucous landscape, such as piles of discarded furniture or construction debris. In the studio, images of these "found materials" are cut out and re-assembled to form intricate, abstract collages. The final step in Williams' process is to return the completed work to the street by pasting each piece in a location where the work partially blends with the surroundings. At first glance these, complex yet subtle interventions may appear to be a happy accident.

In *[FLO]* Williams focuses her attention on the immediate landscape of the gallery itself. Her installation reminds us that there is substantially more to an exhibition space than a white walled cube. By photographing the ducts, pipes, light fixtures, office equipment, and other necessary but often hidden features of a gallery, Williams deconstructs the space, highlighting the architectural elements that make the building function but often go unnoticed. The viewer is directed to see the space in its entirety instead of imagining the artwork to be separate or unaffected by its context. In this case, rather than returning her large-scale collages to the street, Williams allows the outside to in. The literal and imagined ductwork, electric lines, sprinkler system and other pipes lead the viewer's eye around the space, serving as pathways to the building's exterior and the surrounding urban geography.

Jennifer Williams received her BFA from Cooper Union and her MFA from Goldsmiths College in London. She has exhibited at Silvereye Center for Photography in Pittsburgh, the New Jersey Visual Arts Center, Soho Photo, the Williamsburg Art and Historical Society and Platform Gallery in Seattle among other venues.

A.I.R. Gallery is located at 111 Front Street, #228 in the DUMBO neighborhood of Brooklyn. Gallery hours: Wed. – Sun., 11am to 6pm. For directions please visit www.airgallery.org. For more information please contact Gallery Director, Kat Griefen at 212-255-6651 or kgriefen@airgallery.org.

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