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Illuminata: Are You Curious?

An exhibiton of new color photographs at Art @ Large, NYC

FOCUSING ON THE CONCEPT OF ABANDON

NEW YORK CITY (October 5, 2004) — New York City gallery Art @ Large is proud to present an exhibition of new color photographs by Barbara Nitke. The work will be featured at the gallery from November 11-17, 2004.

Illuminata: Are You Curious? focuses on the concept of abandon, continuing Barbara Nitke's exploration of the alternative sexual world. "The work is about losing oneself into a place beyond control," she says, "giving over to something which is fierce, raw and primitive, in search of a transcendent state."

Acknowledged by critic A. D. Coleman as one of the most important photographers currently exploring human sexuality, Barbara Nitke has produced work over the last two decades that furthers the debate over what is a fit subject for high art.

As publicly funded organizations continue the trend of retreating from controversial subjects, mainstream public acceptance has risen. In a recent issue of Time Magazine, John Cloud observed that "our astonishment at Robert Mapplethorpe's photographs of leather and pain 20 years ago now seems quaint..."

Barbara Nitke's monograph Kiss of Fire (Kehrer) was published in October 2003. She is the current president of The Camera Club of New York (founded in 1884 by Alfred Stieglitz) and is on the faculty of School of Visual Arts in New York. Her work has been the subject of one-woman exhibitions in New York, New Orleans, Baltimore, Provincetown and Portland, Maine.

She is also a co-plaintiff with the National Coalition for Sexual Freedom in challenging John Ashcroft, Attorney General of the United States of America, and the federal Communications Decency Act (CDA) which regulates obscenity on the Internet. The case is expected to go to the U. S. Supreme Court.

Art @ Large represents neo-erotic and figurative fine art celebrating the human form, sexuality and human behavior. The gallery is located in the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood of New York City in the Art Deco style historic Film Center Building at 630 Ninth Avenue, between 44-45th Streets Suite 707.

Gallery hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 11am-6pm, EST.