



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**LISA KERESZI
NEW YORK STORIES**

February 3 – March 26, 2005

Gallery hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 10 – 6

Project Gallery: Jodie Vicenta Jacobson

The Yancey Richardson Gallery is pleased to present *New York Stories*, an exhibition of photographs by Lisa Kereszi. Her gritty images of empty and abandoned spaces in and around New York create dramas from the remnants of other people's lives and reveal her interest in fantasy, escape, glamour, and our failed attempts to achieve them. Kereszi's investigations include the Show World strip club, the defunct Broadway arcade in Times Square, the Spook-a-Rama haunted house on Coney Island and an abandoned school on Governors Island. Language figures hauntingly in the images: a Twomblyesque chalkboard with the repeated scribbling of a teacher's name, Coney Island's red Wonder Wheel sign echoing in the black night sky, iridescent green and purple neon lights advertising "Girls" and an exit sign glowing in the gloom of a cheap carnival ride.

The daughter of a junkyard proprietor and a one-time antique dealer, Kereszi finds treasure in the detritus, the cast off, the left behind, the detail that reveals something about the life that unfolded in the space she discovers. "I'm interested in the trails and traces people leave behind...I'm looking for the moment when something becomes transcendent."

In 2003 Kereszi was commissioned by the Public Art Fund to photograph Governors Island, which had served for 200 years as a military outpost, a Tuberculosis quarantine, a prison and most recently the U.S. Coast Guard base. With the return of Governors Island to the City of New York in January 2003, the Coast Guard left, leaving behind a ghost town including a school, a bowling alley, a hospital, and a movie theatre. Kereszi's Governors Island photographs, along with those of Andrew Moore, were exhibited at the Municipal Art Society in 2004 and currently hang in Mayor Bloomberg's office. A book on the project was published by the Public Art fund and is available through the gallery or D.A.P.

A 2000 graduate of the Yale MFA program, Kereszi's photographs have been exhibited at the Whitney Museum, the New Museum, the Aldrich Museum and the Brooklyn Museum. Her work is in the collection of the Whitney Museum, the Yale Art Gallery and the New Museum. A Brooklyn resident, she is currently on the faculty of the Yale School of Art.

For further information, call 646-230-9610 or write Info@yanceyrichardson.com