



Priscilla Monge

A Matter of Life and Death

March 31 - May 14, 2005

Reception for the artist: Thursday, March 31, 2005, 6 - 8 PM

Project Gallery Exhibition: Mario Cravo Neto

The Yancey Richardson Gallery is pleased to present the first New York solo exhibition of Costa Rican artist Priscilla Monge. Entitled *A Matter of Life and Death*, the show is comprised of conceptually based photographs that reveal the artist's use of language and imagery to explore feminist issues with irony, humor and defiance.

In the series *The Artist Reveals Mystic Truths*, delicately painted teacups arranged on lavish cloths reveal phrases written on the inside rim. These epigrams scrawled in the thick brown coffee, which coats the cups' interiors, all end in the phrase "a matter of life and death" and suggest the furtive scribbling of a well-bred lady in revolt against traditional society. In the series *Pizarras*, Monge comments ironically on society's characterization of "female hysteria." Sentences such as "I should not think obsessive thoughts" or "I should not love too much" are written repeatedly on green chalkboards over children's drawings and reference both the after school punishment of a disobedient child and the obsessive scribbling of a neurotic. In a third series, using white tape on a wrinkled green cloth, Monge humorously conflates a soccer field with the mountainous topography of Costa Rica.

Born in Costa Rica in 1968, Monge has exhibited sculptures, installations, performances and photographs internationally. Her work was featured in the 2001 Venice Biennale and the 2003 P.S.1 show *The Real Royal Trip*.

Yancey Richardson Gallery, 535 West 22nd Street, NYC 10011 tel. 646.230.9610-For visuals please contact Tracey Norman– tnorman@yanceyrichardson.com