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corinne bronfman

## BIOGRAPHY

Born: Montreal, Quebec, 1947

Education: 1968 B.A. Art History, Connecticut College, New London, Conn

1968 lived in Paris, France

Université de Paris I (Sorbonne)—aesthetics

École Pratique des Hautes Études—semiology

Atelier 17—Stanley William Hayter—etching

1977 May, moved to New York City.

## STATEMENT

You enter a room where a grey rectangle is hanging on a wall. As you approach it, you realize that there are actually several shades of grey. Closer still, you can read the grain, greys, tones as shapes—and the caption to learn that the black rectangles on the white field are the wreckage of a 69 card train derailment. The rectangle is a landscape.

Reading either a photography or a text is "organizing to meaning." In 1978, I began looking at the interaction of words and image, beginning with the most obvious instances where the text gives meaning to a seemingly abstract pattern of shapes and tones, and where the distinction between words and image blurs—metaphor, word images, figurative speech, graphic quality of letters, etc. In my next series, I equated image and text with surface pattern: the grain of a photography with the letters of words; the greys and tones of a photography with the black and white pattern of a text. In 1980, I turned to the questions:

WHAT'S IT A PICTURE OF?

WHAT DOES IT SAY?

By focusing on the grey and grainy grey not-yet-legible-as-something-else, I slow my reading of the photo-text. Grey areas intrigue me. I let a meaning of one word supplant another meaning of the same word and read *le PIED nu* as black-and-white-like-a-maggie *PIED*. I focus on one word and see the expectations which "existence" produces and denies. Without losing sight of meaning, I stare at the grey ground and watch as the landscape becomes a rectangle and the rectangle dissolves into grain.

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1975 Paris, France. Haut Pavé-Galerie   | 1977 Montreal Museum of Fine Arts—New Acquisitions     |
| 1975 Montreal, Quebec. Gallery 1640   | 1978 Connecticut College Alumnae Exhibition            |
| 1975 Montreal, Quebec. Cavendish Mall   | 1978 Japan—APA International Exhibition of Photography |
| 1974  | 1979 Montreal Museum of Fine Arts                      |
| 1974 Montreal, Quebec and Toronto, Ontario—Canadian Society of Printer Etchers and Engravers. |  |



Je la regarde, je la écoute,  
comme si le vent se levait  
et que sur la cloche on la  
remuait en cette veillée.  
... Je suis, j'ai deux ventiles,  
je ne dors pas plus. Et si  
agrément, ce n'est plus d'au-  
tre que le bruit du papier.  
Je déteste l'image au profit  
de ce nombre. ...

Edouard Brémont

Richard Baskin, LA CHAUSSE CLAIRS, Note sur la photographie

Éditions de l'Éclat, Paris (1981) 128 p. 154, 154

photo tirée des notes inédites (1981) - après 1981, 1981 p. 154

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