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JOANNE HANDLEY **Vagrancies and Virtual Artifice | COFA Exhibition / Performance Spaces** **May 10 -14, 2004**

The liminal realm between real and virtual, in which bit-streams are inscribed into the margins of material practice, is found interwoven through a series of large scale paintings, digital prints and hybrids of the two in this recent exhibition by MFA candidate, Joanne Handley.

Undertaken partly in the United States, the project culminated three years of research which investigated the synthesis of painting, digital image and giclée print. Drawing upon new technologies supportive of this interface, the research engaged the use of fractal technology to enlarge images without loss of resolution. It also explored innovative developments in artists' acrylics such as synthetic polymers which embody metal pigments and light interference properties.

Handley's interests, which lay at the border-crossings of Art and Science and their instrumentality in influencing ways we construct and analyse meaning, are realised through such works as EELE, which featured in the exhibition and was recently selected for inclusion in Plugged In at the Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockport, Maine, USA and Digital02 – Envisioning Time, Space and the Future – an exhibition of digital printmaking by both artists and scientists which opened at the New York Hall of Science before travelling to the Taranto Gallery, New York in 2003.

Many thanks to the COFA SA GAS Scheme, which generously provided funding for the transportation of artworks to and from the exhibition. More information: www.joannehandley.com



Installations views of Vagrancies and Virtual Artifice at the COFA Exhibition/Performance Spaces, May 2004.

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