

**Fransje Killaars (NL)**  
**Jeroen de Rijke / Willem de Rooij (NL)**  
11 April through 30 May

**Fransje Killaars**, born in Maastricht in 1959, lives and works in Amsterdam. Originally an easel painter, she modified her pictorial approach after a trip to India and a bout of self and soul-searching. Her installations, consisting of a variety of fabrics with different textures and colors, are now paintings or sculptures – or both – that we can move around in.

Her investigation of color makes use of materials that are part of our environment: hangings, cushions, beds and day blankets, rugs found or specially executed. This could lead us to conclude that everything in her work is *ready-made*. But the artist here uses subtler nuances; by playing with different materials that we know, in their raw or processed state, she intensifies the characteristic effect color has on us. Sometimes she does use *ready-mades* (tennis balls for instance) with full awareness. Color affects us in an unconscious fashion, it affects our inborn, more trivial sensibility, that appears well before the image. By inviting us to meditate on color, Killaars highlights the mechanisms by which we perceive and sense it. Color has become an essential medium in this artist's work, which critics have associated with Paul Lohse and Rothko among painters, and Donald Judd, Dan Flavin or James Turrell for the sculptural aspects.

Beyond the idea of 'penetrating the picture', other major elements of her work are the mix of different materials and their varied origins, both implying a juxtaposition of cultures and societies. Without social criticism and always respectful of local customs, the artist makes use of textures and above all colors that may have a very precise meaning in the context of religious, cultural, regional or individual codes, thus creating a form of culture shock between the West and India, whose colors the artist "imports".

Using color to make us more aware of our thoughts and the associations they give rise to, Killaars' work (as expressed by familiar objects and spaces) changes our perception of our environment.

**Jeroen de Rijke**, 1970 and **Willem de Rooij**, 1969, live and work in Amsterdam. They first met at the Rietveld Academy for Fine Arts in Amsterdam where they began to work together on video installations, performances, TV programs and 16 mm films.

These two artist film makers "*... are in full control of cinematographic technique to which they confer perspectives and processes taken from the use of the image and from plastic values. Their films condense 'time', making the spectator intensely aware of perception as a psychological condition.*"

It is difficult to categorize their films, which correspond neither to the cinema we are used to "consume", nor to filmed paintings. One might define them as filmed temporal spaces, that modify the laws of representation. The artists make use of an uncommon cinematographic technique; the dialogue is usually quite banal, sometimes there is a semblance of a plot that creates deliberate confusion, which at other times is provoked by the title. The film *Forever and Ever*, 18 mn, 1995, which will be shown in FRI-ART, offers us an exceptional tour of an Indian house, in well-structured sequences that give the impression of indisputable logic which quickly reveals just how superficial it is.

One might say that not the images they show are important, but the time we spend watching them, with all that implies in the context of space and time. Yet to arrive at this goal, to catch our attention, the images have to be!

This exhibition would not have been possible without the sponsorship of the Fondation Nestlé pour l'art, Mondriaan Foundation, Amsterdam and Tetra Pak, Romont.

During the show, *La Cuisine* will be open every Thursday evening. Information and reservations : 026 323 23 51

**Thursday at 8 p.m.** : Guided visit of the exhibition with Michel Ritter, director of FRI-ART

**Coming exhibition** : **Dirk Braekman, Elke Boon, David Claerbout (B)**, organised by CIS Bierincks, in co-operation with the BBI Belluard Bollwerk International, from 26 June through 31 July, opening Friday 25 June.

