

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 9 - February 8, 2003 • Gallery Hours Tues - Sat 11-6

WALTER MARTIN & PALOMA MUÑOZ : TRAVELERS

OPENING THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 6-8 PM

P.P.O.W is pleased to announce its fifth exhibition featuring the collaborative work of Walter Martin and Paloma Muñoz.

In their most recent series entitled *Travelers*, Martin and Muñoz subvert the cheerful conventions of the snow globe with dark ruminations. The typical snow globe winter wonderlands are supplanted by desolate and sometimes sinister snowscapes. Forests of dead trees traversed by solitary figures laden with suitcases. The characters seem dressed for a more civilized sort of commute, their business attire ill-suited for wading through deep snow and biting cold. They are collectively caught off guard by some series of events and forced from their familiar habitat into a harsh and premature exile.

Ultimately it is left to the viewer to speculate about the possible narratives. These scenes encased in glass and water each represent



WALTER MARTIN & PALOMA MUÑOZ, *Traveler 27*, 2002

an attempt to encapsulate, isolate, and illuminate a form of human dread associated with the unexpected and the obvious but often ignored inevitabilities of mortality. In a sense the figures in the

snow globes become stand-ins for us. Their nomadic isolation a metaphor for our own sense of unknown origins and destinations.

Martin and Muñoz will also present a series of large scale photographs derived from the snow globes. These scenes, elevated in scale, alter the intimacy of the snow globe sculptures and depict these dioramas as if occurring during day or night. Light boxes of these works are currently on view at Grand Central Station in New York City through 2003. They will also be showing work in a group exhibition curated by the Public Art Fund at City Hall Park through June 2003.

The artists will also be exhibiting in solo shows in 2003 at Galeria Moriarty and the Museo de la Universidad de Alicante in Spain.

SARA EICHNER : BRICKWORK in Gallery II

In her first exhibit at **P.P.O.W**, Sara Eichner creates a series of paintings which draw inspiration from the amorphous nature of the contemporary urban landscape. She creates vignettes of cityscapes based on the transient relationship between urban structure and human perception.

Building on architectural references, Eichner considers the effects the human sensory experience has on the perception of space.



SARA EICHNER, *Space around wood shingled building*, 2001

With an innate attention to detail and the ability to manipulate traditional Western landscape ideology, Eichner creates paintings that express the sense of a larger environment yet at the same time the beauty of the detail is revealed.

She is the recipient of a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship and her work was included in group exhibitions in Brooklyn and Manhattan.

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS:

February 13 - March 15, 2003 - **CARRIE MAE WEEMS** - *Coming Up For Air*

February 20 - 24 - **The Art Show** - Seventh Regiment Armory, Park Avenue at 67th Street

March 7 - 10, 2003 - **The Armory Show** - Piers 88 & 90