

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Marcel Odenbach**

***Paper on Paper***

November 20 – December 20, 2003

Anton Kern Gallery is proud to present a new exhibition of work by German artist Marcel Odenbach. For his sixth solo show in New York, he will present new series of collages and watercolors.



Marcel Odenbach is widely recognized for his important contribution to video art since the 1970s. As a parallel to video, he has successfully explored similar subjects on paper. He belongs to a generation whose visual memory of political events is archived in black and white, referring to super 8 films and photojournalism. He explores the opposite sides of deadly conflicts, depicting polemics with elegance.

With his new collages, Marcel Odenbach blurs the tenets of exterior and interior. Set against a dark background, the large black and white collages can be seen as windows, voids or merely as TV screens. Their ambiguity shelters private existence from outside influences. *Wald*, a separate series of works on paper, depicts ordinary woodland images. Odenbach explores the cultural significance of the forest in recognition of German artists who draw upon it as a symbol of their heritage.

The contrasting collage layers generate a sense of illusion and allow for multiple readings depending on viewer proximity to the work. For Odenbach, the technique presents an apt metaphor to the inner and outer human condition; through collage, he raises awareness of the misunderstandings and mediations between cultures. The artist however is positioned in the middle, as culprit, observer and mediator.

In addition to a strong following in Europe, Odenbach has shown in New York at the New Museum of Contemporary Art and the Museum of Modern Art, which along with several other U.S. institutions, hold his work in their permanent collections. He has had solo exhibitions in numerous international museums such as the Museum of Modern Art in Frankfurt, Frankfurter Kunstverein, IVAM, Centre Julio Gonzalez in Valencia and the Reina Sofia in Madrid, among others.

Opening Thursday, November 20, 2003 from 6-8pm. The show will run through December 20. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am-6 pm. For further information and images, please contact Fernanda Arruda or Michael Clifton at tel 212.367.9663, fax 212.367.8135 or email: [info@antonkerngallery.com](mailto:info@antonkerngallery.com).

January 15 – February 14, 2004 - *Scream: 10 artists x 10 writers x 10 scary movies* curated by Fernanda Arruda and Michael Clifton.