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BAYLIN, BETH. Photographs and Objects. (1977)
Directed by: Dr. Carl Goldstein. Pp. 2.

This thesis consists of eighteen photographs and four object and photograph pieces. Also included are two simulated display pieces using mixed media. This work was exhibited in the Weatherspoon Art Gallery from April 24 through May 15, 1977. A 35mm. transparency of each work is on file in the Walter C. Jackson Library of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

by

Beth Baylin

A Thesis Submitted to
the Faculty of the Graduate School at
The University of North Carolina at Greensboro
in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Fine Arts

Greensboro
1977

Approved by


Thesis Advisor

PHOTOGRAPHS AND OBJECTS

Approval Page

This thesis has been approved by the following committee of
the Faculty of the Graduate School at The University of North
Carolina at Greensboro.

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Beth Baylin

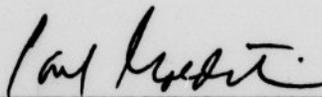
Thesis Adviser

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April 14, 1977
Date of Submission

Approved by



Thesis Adviser

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would especially like to thank Scott Burton, visiting
artist, for his encouragement and helpful criticism. I am
also grateful to Peter Appelini who advised early on. Thank

APPROVAL PAGE

This thesis has been approved by the following committee of
the Faculty of the Graduate School at The University of North
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Paul Kestel

Committee Members

Scott Burton

Paul Kestel

John Allen Lewis

James Ferguson

April 14, 1977
Date of Examination

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would especially like to thank Scott Burton, visiting artist, for his encouragement and thoughtful criticism. I am also grateful to Peter Agostini who advised early on, "Think of the adventure you could have."

To the members of my committee and to Walter Barker I extend my thanks and appreciation.

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My thesis consists of photographs and objects which can be divided into two categories. The first is a group of pictures of department stores of women's wear and accessory displays of store mirrors. Also included with these photographs are several actual displays which I have fabricated. In the second group, photographs are juxtaposed with real objects outside the picture in the gallery space.

The department store "still-lives" have for me an artificial, absurd, surreal quality which I hope becomes more apparent by removing them from their context through photographs. I am not trying to explain but just to present. I enjoy finding these displays which others have made. When I was painting I always disliked setting up a still-life and preferred finding things which already had a place. I am documenting vignettes of fashion and taste which are always changing. A display has a short life, and is soon replaced by something newer and more seasonal. The combination of a few objects can express values, taste, class and personality. Judgments are made in constructing these displays which speak to the consumer public. I am interested in these hidden messages.

The mirror photographs deal with a feeling of displacement that I experience in these large, dazzling stores. I am always getting turned around, feeling lost, catching myself in mirrors thinking at first it is someone else. Mirrors become like doors and doors become like mirrors.

In all the department store photographs the element of artificial light is constant. It creates a real impression. My thesis consists of photographs and objects which can be divided into two categories. The first is a group of pictures taken in department stores of women's wear and accessory displays and a series of store mirrors. Also included with these photographs are several actual displays which I have fabricated. In the second group, photographs are juxtaposed with real objects outside the picture in the gallery space.

The department store "still-lives" have for me an artificial, absurd, surreal quality which I hope becomes more apparent by removing them from their context through photographs. I am not trying to explain but just to present. I enjoy finding these displays which others have made. When I was painting I always disliked setting up a still-life and preferred finding things which already had a place. I am documenting vignettes of fashion and taste which are always changing. A display has a short life, and is soon replaced by something newer and more seasonal. The combination of a few objects can express values, taste, class and personality. Judgements are made in constructing these displays which speak to the consumer public. I am interested in these hidden messages.

The mirror photographs deal with a feeling of displacement that I experience in these large, rambling stores. I am always getting turned around, feeling lost, catching myself in mirrors thinking at first it is someone else. Mirrors become like doors and doors become like mirrors.

In all the department store photographs the element of artificial light is constant. It casts a cool, impersonal, even light on all things. I want the photograph to reflect the quality of light and the subject matter as straightforwardly as possible. I most often choose to center the image, using a glossy, almost plastic-like paper.

The second group of photographs juxtaposed with objects result from returning to a two-dimensional format, photography, after having worked three-dimensionally for over a year. Painting has traditionally been thought of as a window on the world. As one goes into the space of the painting, one goes "into the wall". The photograph has an even more seductive illusion of three-dimensionality. In these pieces I am, in a sense, "in the wall", on the other side of the window, trapped in that illusionistic space. In another sense they act like mirrors, reflecting back into the real space and objects in the gallery.

2. Magic Display

Photographs and Objects

1. "I'm in the Shower" 5 x 9
2. "Looking for My Toe Shoes" 8 x 10
3. "Still-life Painter" 8 x 10
4. "Fly Swatter" 8 x 10

CATALOGUE

Photographs

<u>Title</u>	<u>Size</u>
1. Mirrors and Clothes	8 x 10
2.	8 x 10
3.	8 x 10
4. Dresses on Furniture	8 x 10
5.	8 x 10
6.	8 x 10
7.	
8. Altarpieces	8 x 10
9.	8 x 10
10. Perfume Chairs	8 x 10
11.	8 x 10
12.	8 x 10
13. Displays with Dogs	8 x 10
14.	8 x 10
15. Overall Pieces	8 x 10
16.	8 x 10
17. Dresses with Art	8 x 10
18.	8 x 10

Displays

1. Perfume Display
2. Lingerie Display

Photographs and Objects

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| 1. " I'm in the Shower ". | 5 x 9 |
| 2. " Looking for My Toe Shoes ". | 8 x 10 |
| 3. " Still-life Painter ". | 8 x 10 |
| 4. " Fly Swatter ". | 8 x 8½ |