

For release

artist: Roni Horn
opening: Wednesday, May 20, 1997
gallery: Raffaella Cortese Gallery, Via Rodolfo Farneti 10, 20129 Milan
exhibition dates: May 20 to September 30, 1997
gallery hours: Tuesday to Saturday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. or by appointment.

Roni Horn frequently experiments different forms of expression such as sculptures, drawings, writings and photographs. As the artist says in a recent interview published on "Frieze", *people naturally tend to relate the work by appearance, to find visual or stylistic similarities. I think the relationship among the different bodies of work is not supplementary. It's complimentary.*

A key element of Horn's research is the definition of an "inner geography", gained by an ongoing interaction with a metaphorical "place", synonym of a space of total individual and expressive freedom. For Horn this place is also a specific geographic site: Island. After many years of "regular migrations" to the island, in 1990 the artist started a series of publications collectively entitled *To Place* (an extract was published on "Parkett", no. 39), that Horn also defines an "Encyclopaedia of Identity". The word "place" - at the same time a verb and a noun - has a double function, thus indicating a dynamic action and a location. *Iceland is a verb and its action is to center.* In a map of the island included in the section of writings of *Pooling waters*, every place where a piece was conceived is designated by the title of the piece itself: in this way Horn redefines Islandic geography and is in return redefined by it.

Pooling waters is the fourth volume of the Encyclopaedia, presenting images of the various natural and artificial pools of hot water scattered all over the island. Some of the photographs of this book form, in different sequences, the four limited edition suites -each containing five offset photolithographs - exhibited in the gallery, and for the first time in Italy.

Roni Horn was born in 1955 in New York City, where she currently lives and works. She participated in the most important international group shows, such as Prospect in Frankfurt in 1989, the Whitney Biennial in 1991, Documenta IX in Kassel in 1992. In 1995 the Kunsthalle of Basel presented a significant retrospective of her works entitled *Making Being Here Enough*, and she also exhibited with Felix Gonzalez-Torres at the Sammlung Goetz in Munchen. In 1996 Horn created a permanent installation for the Deutsches Meteorologisches Institut of Munchen and had two solo gallery shows in Paris and New York. During the spring of this year she had a solo exhibition at Winterthur's Photo Museum, entitled *You are the weather.*

For further information please call the gallery