

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Claire Oliver
Claire@ClaireOliver.com

Janet Biggs

Enemy of the Good
Multimedia Performance
December 7th, @ 7pm

Location: Photo Miami back lot
NW 31st Street and North Miami Avenue

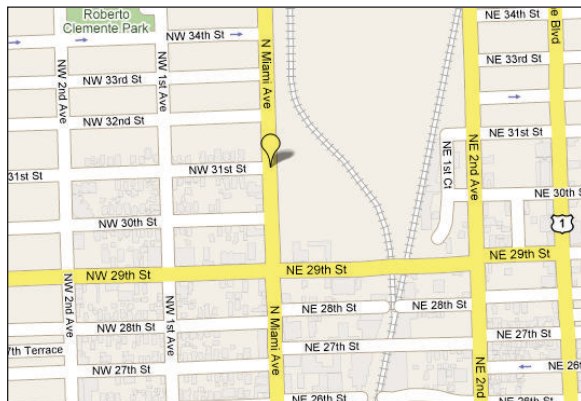
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As early as Greek civilization, man has wondered whether all physical events are caused or determined by the sum total of all prior events. If this theory holds true, our actions themselves must be determined in an everlasting sequence of cause and effect. What then is the source of the free will possessed by living things throughout the earth? Pondering this question, new media artist Janet Biggs has produced a powerful new performance work which explores control, obsession, and Man's relentless pursuit of perfection. Biggs proposes new relationships between aesthetics and strength, as well as action and desire. *Enemy of the Good* juxtaposes the fierce athleticism and pageantry of jumping horses with the soulful chords of a live cellist, the pounding percussion of a solo pianist with the otherworldly landscape of large-scale video projections. This new multi-media performance will premiere at Photo Miami as part of the fair's extracurricular programming. Biggs merges the fierce athleticism and pageantry of jumping horses with the soulful chords of a cellist and the pounding percussion of a solo pianist set against a landscape of large-scale video projections. The Artist explores the boundaries of gravity and personal limits and by extension the boundaries of control and free will.



Janet Biggs, Enemy of the Good (artist rendering)
photo credit Jon Kessel

With its title taken from Voltaire -- "the perfect is the enemy of the good" -- Biggs' performance examines Man's driving desire to transcend constraints in His unending search for perfection. With nods to Busby Berkeley's lavish musicals, the photographs of Muybridge, and Santiago Calatrava's obsessive architecture, the work explores the isolation and obsession required to make something difficult appear effortless and transcendent. At first glance one may be confused and unsettled by the intensity and divergence of Biggs' imagery, but upon further contemplation the viewer recognizes the obsessive commitment involved in the choices made by human beings: a frustration that is instinctive in all living creatures to have mastery over their own free will. Biggs' works cultivate the sophistication of both classic photography and the origins of montage in placing her as a fierce contemporary counterpart to early filmmaker Eisenstein Sergei Mikhailovich.



Janet Biggs' work has been exhibited at important museums including The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, CT; Katonah Museum of Art, Katonah, NY; Contemporary Art Center, Cincinnati, OH; and the John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, WI. She is in the collections of the Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY; and The Robert J. Shiffler Collection and Foundation, Dayton, OH. She is the recipient of prestigious grants and awards, including a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship.

Directions to the performance @ Photo Miami

From Miami Beach Travel South on Collins Avenue. Turn right onto 5th Street / FL_A1A West which becomes US-41 West / Macarthur CSWY which becomes I-395 West. Merge onto I-95 North via Exit 1B toward Ft. Lauderdale. Follow directions from I-95 below.

From I-95 Take I-95 North to EXIT 4B merge onto I-195 East / FL-112 East toward Miami Beach. Take Exit 2A to North Miami Avenue. Turn right onto North Miami Avenue. Photo Miami is on corner of North Miami Avenue and North West 31st Street.