

## PRESS RELEASE

Exhibition        David Lamelas  
                      "projects on canvas and paper" (1984-1990)  
                      04.03.2000-06.05.2000

Vernissage        03.03.2000, 19.30-22 hrs

The exhibition shows drawings and paintings by the Argentinian Artist David Lamelas done as drafts for projects that were never intended to be realized. Lamelas garners motifs from the fields of entertainment, ecology, architecture and design – themes which entered art generally in the mid-1980s . However, as art can only make a marginal contribution to these themes, Lamela's works criticise the inappropriateness of this discourse; on the other hand, is appropriate.

At the 1968 Venice Biennale, the then 22-year-old David Lamelas assumed a position at the hub of the art avant-garde with his contribution "Office of Information of the about the Vietnam War at three Levels". At that time, the attention of the avant-garde was focused on the limitations to the possible exchange between the institutionalised "realm of art", this time with the aid of sketches and large-format drawings on canvas. One of the first motifs is the view of the "Office of Information about the Vietnam War- from above".

From 1969 onwards, Lamelas worked mainly with the medium of film. Up to 1974, he analysed the medium and its institutional context, then the narrative elements of the film idiom moved to the fore. Two films by David Lamelas, "Time as Activity" (Berlin, 1998) and "The invention of Dr. Morell" (Berlin 1999) will be shown at the Neue Nationalgalerie from 15-26 March 2000, in collaboration with the DAAD. This confrontation of his different works highlights the topicality of the positions they represent.

The concept artist David Lamelas' films were first shown in Berlin in 1998 at Galerie Kienzle&Gmeiner in the exhibition "Time as Activity".