The Fruitmarket Gallery 19 April - 17 May 1986

LAWRENCE WEINER

NATØ's
Gamma City

1. the artist may construct the work
2. the work may be fabricated
3. the work need not be built

Lawrence Weiner, *Installation: Fruitmarket Gallery* 1986

Lawrence Weiner

Lower Gallery

Lawrence Weiner's installation, which has been specially prepared for The Fruitmarket Gallery, may present the gallery visitor with an unfamiliar experience. Weiner is one of a number of artists who dispense with traditional means of making art and introduce a variety of approaches which seek to actively involve the viewer in a way not possible within a convention which depends on objects for its meaning. The temporary and intangible nature of much of this activity emphasises the central importance which these artists place on concepts.

Ideas are the actual and only necessary material of Weiner's work. He likens them to sculptures which may be built in the mind and then transposed, if desired, into various concrete forms. The specifications for the present exhibition and accompanying book were prepared as a response to a visit to Scotland made last year by the artist, who is himself American (b. 1940). The form was dictated by the gallery space and locally available materials. These specifications which have been followed by the gallery, are not, however, conditions imposed upon the work. The present forms are transient and will soon be dispersed or dismantled.

Weiner deliberately avoids creating expensive or imposing works prefering that which can be easily erased and re-formed. This approach undermines the emphasis on virtuosity and permanence which characterises much of the art world. Anyone may interpret Weiner's ideas with equal validity to the artist himself. As to ownership of the works—anyone may own them simply by knowing them.

Spectators confronting Weiner's work must make the imaginative leap necessary to accept his unorthodox approach and participate in its reconstruction within their own imaginations.

A related installation is on show at The Pier Arts Centre, Orkney until 3 May.

Tape/Slide Presentation

The Fruitmarket Gallery have commissioned a tape/slide from critic Jean Fisher, in which she introduces various aspects of Conceptual Art and places them within an historical context. It lasts approximately 15 minutes and will be shown at half-hourly intervals.

Publication

An artist's book of 32 pages entitled *ABOVE BEYOND BELOW* has been published as part of the installation. It includes texts by Erlend Brown and Mark Francis. It is priced £1.60 at the exhibition (£2.40 plus post and packing by mail order).

NATØ's *Gamma City*

Upper Gallery

You are now entering NATØ's *Gamma City*. NATØ (Narrative Architecture Today) is the creation of Nigel Coates, Catrina Beevor, Martin Benson, Peter Fleissig, Robert Mull, Christina Norton, Mark Prizeman, Melanie Sainsbury and Carlos Villanueva. The group, who trained at the Architectural Association, have been working together since July 1983. They have produced a series of magazines which expand and identify their approach to architecture. The third of these is devoted to *Gamma City*.

Gamma City quickly draws the viewer into its territory. It overwhelms with a vibrant, visual patchwork and a sense of continual movement and change. It presents a panoramic vision of city life. Domestic objects are interspersed with architectural drawings and plans and the links are stressed between the individual, the home and the city.

The work, although polemical, is in no sense a rigid blue-print for the reconstruction of society. On the contrary, existing features and objects are adapted to create new uses and forms. Rules are flexible and leave room for the needs and tastes of the individual. *Gamma City* does not present an idealised vision of the future. It aims rather to recycle and strengthen a present world which is within our grasp.

NATØ 3: *Gamma City Issue*

This large-format magazine accompanies the exhibition. It is priced £2.50 (£2.50 plus post and packing by mail order).

Introductory Tours

Introductory tours of the exhibitions are available on request and will respond to the interests of the group. Please contact Moira Innes on 031-225 2383 to arrange a suitable time.

Events

Admission to all events is *free*.

Friday 18 April at 11 am

Lawrence Weiner will talk about his work to students.

Saturday 19 April at 12 noon

Bill Furlong, editor of *Audio Arts,* will give a lecture on the work of Lawrence Weiner.

Friday 2 May at 11 am

Two members of NATØ will introduce their installation to students.

Saturday 3 May at 12 noon

Brian Hatton, art historian and critic, will give a lecture on the work of the NATØ group entitled *Industrial Capriccio*.

Saturday 17 May at 12 noon

Peter Cook, architect and critic will give a lecture on Utopian Architecture.

Forthcoming exhibitions

31 May-5 July 1986

Gilbert & George

This is the first showing for fifteen years of a major early work by Gilbert & George, a series of six large triptychs entitled *THE PAINTINGS (with Us in the Nature)* 1971.

Gareth Fisher

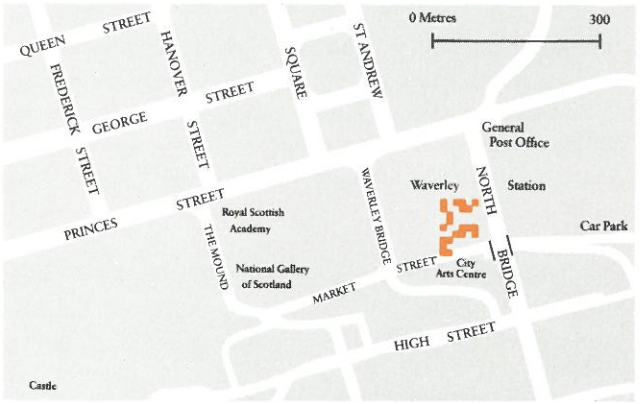
New work by the young sculptor who is at present based in Dundee. His recent sculptures combine plaster, found objects and embedded coloured pieces. The exhibition will tour to The Seagate Gallery, Dundee and Artspace, Aberdeen.

The Fruitmarket Gallery

Director: Mark Francis Exhibitions: Lesley Morrison Administration: Fiona McLeod, *Aileen Brady* Activities: *Moira Innes* Publicity: *Alison Bell* Gallery: *Donald Ritchie, Donald Busby, Linda Taylor, Henrietta Campbell* Bookstall: Cathy Outram, *Donald Busby* Cafe: *Anne Smith*
Part-time staff are shown in italics

Admission Free
Open: Tuesday-Saturday 10-5.30. **Closed:** Sundays and Mondays
The gallery cafe, which has a restaurant licence, is open Tuesday-Saturday 10-5.

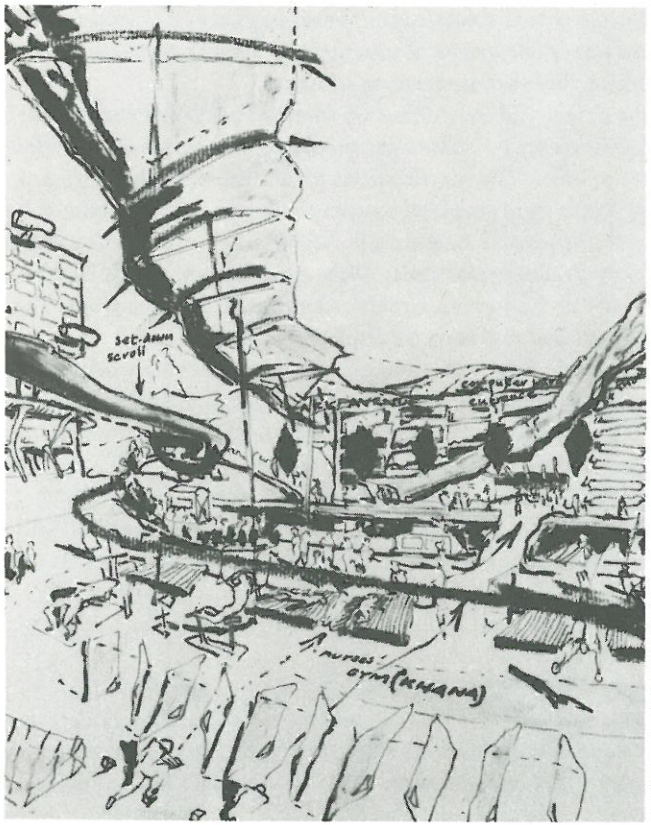
The Fruitmarket Gallery is *subsidised by the* Scottish Arts Council.



The Fruitmarket Gallery, 29 Market Street, Edinburgh EH1 1DF Tel: 031-225 2383

Acknowledgements
Refreshments for the preview have been kindly supplied by Beck's Bier.
NATØ's *Gamma City* was originated by the AIR Gallery, London.

An exhibition entitled *The Art of The Architect* will be on show at the City Art Centre from 12 April-24 May. For details telephone 031-225 2424.



Nigel Coates, *Ark Albion 1985 (detail)*