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John Yau + 3

Ilse Murdock, Archie Rand, Alison Taylor

June 21-July 13, 2004

Opening Reception: Friday, June 25

John Yau + 3 explores the nature of collaborations as it pairs poet, writer and critic John Yau with three artist collaborators: Ilse Murdock, Archie Rand, and Alison Taylor. Yau is no stranger to collaborations. In 1987, he and Rand began working together, and since then he has collaborated with an extensive and wide range of European and American artists. In all of these projects, it is the direct dialogue between text and image that Yau finds so appealing, "*Can words and pictures meet and make something fresh?*"

For longtime collaborators Yau and Rand, the process of collaborating has become fluid; sometimes a project is initiated by an image that Rand gives to Yau and sometimes Yau's words come first. For Murdock, Taylor, and Yau, the collaborative process served as an introduction. Upon seeing their work, Yau responded with words which the artists then integrated into their images. The results are compelling pieces which richly illuminate the creative potential inherent in collaborations.

John Yau has published more than two dozen books, as well as essays for numerous museum catalogs and monographs. Since 1978, he has written for many American and European magazines (*Artforum, Art in America, Art News, El Pais, Interview, Tema Celeste* and *Vogue*) and has received abundant fellowships, honors, and awards. A project with James Brown will be published by Carpe Diem Press, and *Movies As a Form of Reincarnation*, a book with Archie Rand, is forthcoming from Granary Press.

For three decades **Archie Rand** has been considered one of America's foremost painters. Once a teenage prodigy, Rand has had over 80 solo and 200 group exhibitions and is represented in both national and international collections. He often writes for international art journals, and in 2002 Rand was given the Presidential Award for Outstanding Teaching at Columbia University where he is the Senior Professor of Visual Arts.

Ilse Murdock received her BFA from Parsons School of Design and has exhibited in numerous shows, including Feigen Contemporary's 2003 exhibition "OnLine". She is a painter whose work explores the themes of eating and waste in contemporary culture.

Alison Taylor received her BFA from Art Center College of Design and is currently an MFA student in Columbia University's Visual Arts Department. Her work has been shown at Baltimore's American Museum of Visionary Art and at Los Angeles galleries like New Image Art, ACME and Track 16. Taylor's paintings include a distinctive narrative quality that deconstructs many of the myths surrounding American society.