

Australian Centre for Contemporary Art

MEDIA RELEASE

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LAWRENCE WALLEN: *RAPTURE* VIDEO INSTALLATION

EXHIBITION DATES 5 - 16 MAY 1993
OPENING TUESDAY 4 MAY 6 - 8 PM

In Lawrence Wallen's **RAPTURE** three large video screens float in the darkness at the head of two lengths of charred wood. The images on the screens track the surface of a late Byzantine Icon, but the picture is fragmented, requiring the spectator to imagine the whole. The gaps in the picture are alluded to by the tangibility of the solid planes of wood on the floor beneath them. In **RAPTURE**, Wallen examines the way in which a video image can absorb the material presence of an object, which renders it a particularly appropriate medium through which to suggest loss. The work therefore finally becomes as much about what it is not, than as what it is.

Lawrence Wallen started working with time based media while studying in the Masterclass of Ernst Caramelle at the Academy for Applied Arts in Vienna. Based in Melbourne since 1988, he has presented work at electronic art festivals and new music festivals both in Australia and Europe.

RAPTURE concludes a triptych of works which began with the performance piece **DISLOCATION**, an anti-quartet for four trombonists, four monitors and video projection commissioned and performed at the TAGE fur Neue Musik, Stuttgart Germany in November 1991. This was followed in November 1992 by **HALF CUBE WITH PROJECTION**, a video installation for the Seventh Australian Video Festival in Sydney.

Lawrence Wallen is currently Artist in Residence in the Department of Architecture, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology.

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