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JOHN BRILL

RELIQUARY

For Immediate Release

Kent Gallery is pleased to present a provocative exhibition of recent toned silverprints by John Brill. The images comprising this series have been created with specific regard for their dual role as two-dimensional representations as well as physical art objects. While these images necessarily begin their genesis with pure camera vision, all undergo an extensive process of post-exposure construction, transcending the seminal act of exposure and inevitably culminating in a polar extreme on the continuum of image transformation. The image that is ultimately perceived in the final print is not merely an interpretation of the original camera vision, but is an image—as well as physical object—that exists entirely on its own terms. That is, the image so constructed is not simply refined in the process of printing, but is essentially created in the process of printing.

*The salient conceptual underpinnings of **Reliquary** have less to do with its ostensible subject matter than with the very idea of exploring a world that has been fabricated at will and from scratch—an equivocal territory that is not merely described by the artist but constructed in a negotiable collaboration between artist and viewer. Indeed, these are not simply indistinct representations of a world that would be rendered more familiar if only the focus were better. Rather, the absence of an expectant descriptive syntax is a fundamental property of this world, in much the same way that the absence of linear narrative is a fundamental property of a dream.*

John Brill received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Physiological Psychology from Colgate University in 1973, and is self-taught as a photographer. He worked on an extended series of photographic self-portraits from 1981 to 1987 followed by the Family Holiday Album, and the engrams and ennui series exhibited at Kent Gallery in 1995 and 1997 respectively. This will be the artist's third one-person show at the Gallery.

Originally exhibited at Kent Gallery, 67 Prince Street, New York, NY 10012.