

LEHMAN COLLEGE ART GALLERY

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monika bravo: *Symphasis•simultaneous appearances*

October 12- December 15, 2000

Reception: Tuesday, October 17 from 5:00-7:00

Monika Bravo creates a virtual aquarium in the gallery as part of her video and sound installation *Symphasis*. It is a simulated space which is at once contained yet appears to be as infinite as the ocean. The illusion of limitless freedom of movement plays off against notions of boundaries and containment in this work which Robert Blake has described as operating on "the level of dream time."

Taped in aquariums throughout the world, projected images fill the room with swimming sharks and drifting jelly fish. In non-linear sequences, schools of tiny fish appear in endless replication—across the walls, ceilings, mirrored surfaces, and monitor—and are gone. Turquoise water segues into the dark, primordial depths as images merge, overlap, and appear simultaneously. Movement is choreographed to synthesized sounds and the music of string instruments—Bravo worked with composer Raul Rothblatt to develop the soundtrack. Viewers' shadows and silhouettes create a human presence and also become a part of this prescribed, displaced environment. It is an abstract composition created from light, sound, and time.

Monika Bravo was born in Bogota, Colombia. She studied at the London School of Photography and the International Center of Photography. Bravo has exhibited her work in Bangkok, Athens, Bogota, and New York City. She currently lives and works in Brooklyn.

Gallery Hours: Tuesday - Saturday from 10am-4pm