

Ronald Feldman Fine Arts

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ALLAN WEXLER WORKS

MARCH 23 – APRIL 20

Wexler experiments on and in the real world. He pulls apart the structures of our everyday life, plays with the materials out of which we construct our surroundings and our implements, and opens up new spaces within a world we thought we had defined.

Aaron Betsky, from *Custom Built: A Twenty-Year Survey of Work by Allan Wexler*

Allan Wexler will exhibit recent large-scale works as well as earlier related works at the Feldman Gallery. These constructions suggest Utopian aspirations and new choreographies for human behavior in public and private spaces. Blurring the distinction between architecture and sculpture, Wexler tests the relationships between function and imagination, technology and craft, and spirituality and the mundane.

Featured in the exhibition is *Too Large Table*, a sixteen-foot square table with chairs accessed by walk-in passages, which influences traditional social interaction. Two structures, a forty-eight foot long ramp and an intricately constructed paper board staircase, 12 feet high, become meditations on infinitely rising pathways and question the distinction between a model and “the real thing.” The composition of *Drywall Drawing*, determined by the random orientation of screw heads, combines basic architectural materials with Zen philosophical thought. *Wall (I Want to Become Architecture)* presents the form of the artist’s body, constructed from flat planes integrated into the gallery wall, and suggests the relationship between furniture, body, and architecture. *Chair Columns Dining Room For the Utopian Cafe* proposes an installation in which the ceiling of a cafe is supported by the extended backs of the chairs, creating a temporary community that, in effect, functions as architecture.

Recent exhibitions include *Custom Built: A Twenty-Year Survey of Work by Allan Wexler*, organized by the Atlanta College of Art Gallery and the City Gallery at Chastain Park, Georgia, which traveled to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati, and the Forum for Contemporary Art in St. Louis. Group exhibitions include *Plug-in: Unity and Mobility* at the Westfälische Landesmuseum Münster and *Utopien heute?* at the Wilhelm-Hack-Museum and Kunstverein Ludwigshafen, Germany. Future exhibitions include group shows at the Karl Ernst Osthaus Museum in Hagen, Germany and at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston, and a one-person exhibition at The Parrish Art Museum in Southampton, Long Island.

Projects include *In the Shadow of the Wind*, a permanent sculpture that was a satellite to Expo 2000 near Hannover, Germany, and commissions by the Hudson River Park Trust for the waterfront and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority Arts for Transit for the Long Island Rail Road terminal, Atlantic Avenue Station, both to be completed in 2004.

There will be a reception on Saturday, March 23, from 6:00 – 8:00. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 – 6:00. Monday by appointment. For more information contact Amy Bannon (212) 226-3232 or amy@feldmangallery.com.