

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
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PROJECTS: THIERRY KUNTZEL

June 28 - September 2, 1991

The Museum of Modern Art's summer **PROJECTS** exhibition is a video installation by French artist Thierry Kuntzel, on view from June 28 through September 2, 1991. Titled *Winter (The Death of Robert Walser)*, the installation explores time and memory and the impact of subliminal images on the viewer. **PROJECTS: THIERRY KUNTZEL** was organized by Barbara London, assistant curator, Video, Department of Film.

Winter is the second installation in Kuntzel's series *Quatre Saisons Moins Une (Four Seasons Less One)*, inspired by the early writings of Swiss author Robert Walser that foretold his death in the snow and Nicolas Poussin's paintings of the four seasons. It consists of a large electronic triptych projected directly onto the gallery wall, with a central image of a motionless male figure (Robert Mapplethorpe model Ken Moody) lying on his back. A computer-controlled camera pans the entire body in the path of an infinity symbol. Slowly repeating the same movement four times, the camera progressively moves in closer to the figure, which gradually emerges from a sheer white veil. This relief-like image is flanked by two projections of identical color fields--a cobalt blue which fades in and out to gray and white and creates a tension with the image of the almost entombed body.

Ms. London writes in the brochure accompanying the exhibition, "Kuntzel is interested in the way simple patterns of light depicting ordinary representational images can have a deep, emotional impact on the viewer's

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