

# The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release  
September 1996

## FIRST NEW YORK MUSEUM PRESENTATION OF THE WORK OF PIETER LAURENS MOL AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

*Projects: Pieter Laurens Mol*  
September 19–November 12, 1996

Recent multi-media conceptual work by the Dutch artist Pieter Laurens Mol (b. 1946) is the subject of the next **Projects** show, on view at The Museum of Modern Art from September 19 to November 12, 1996. While Mol's work has been shown in Europe for the past twenty-five years, *Projects: Pieter Laurens Mol* is the artist's first New York museum exhibition. The poetic quality, ironic wit, undertone of melancholy, and juxtaposition of unusual materials and objects apparent in Mol's installations place him within the post-World War II European tradition of the art of Yves Klein, Piero Manzoni, Joseph Beuys, and Marcel Broodthaers.

"Materials are at the center of [Mol's] attention," states Magdalena Dabrowski, Senior Curator, Department of Drawings, who organized the exhibition. "Every piece shows his deliberate interest in exploring their diversity, their special inner content, and their potential for creating expressive tension and energy. It is this spectacular sensitivity to materials and the constant search for their proper balance that informs Mol's creative process."

Mol's art defies a single stylistic category, although his interests in Dutch history, seventeenth-century painting, and the relationship between space and time remain constant themes. His emphasis on the investigation of states of mind, the expression of emotions, and the examination of matter and spirit imbues his art with a mystical, almost hermetic feeling that invites the viewer to decode it through protracted contemplation. His work shows great diversity, encompassing and often combining photography, painting, drawing, sculpture, mixed media objects, and installation.

