

The Museum of Modern Art

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PROJECTS: ANN HAMILTON

Through January 3, 1995

The Museum of Modern Art's next **PROJECTS** exhibition, currently on view through January 3, 1995, is a new, site-specific installation by American artist Ann Hamilton (b. 1956). Organized by Robert Storr, Curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture, **PROJECTS: ANN HAMILTON** reveals the artist's interest in the relationship between sight and touch, and the ability of an image to challenge the habits of our perceptions.

Hamilton's installation, which is entitled *Seam*, presents in her words "a giant picture of touch" and marks the first time she has used large-format video as a central focus of her work. Projected on a screen is a thirty-minute sequence showing the artist's greatly enlarged, ink-stained index finger rubbing honey over a transparent surface. In front of the screen, at an awkward viewing distance from the image, Hamilton has placed two long wooden benches mounded with hundreds of variegated red rags.

"Simultaneously evoking the painterly application and erasure of pigment, and a churning organism in a strange, viscous environment, Hamilton's close-up image and its oddly scaled viewing room are at once mesmerizing and disorienting, simple and uncanny," states Mr. Storr.

Installation is Hamilton's primary medium. Each new location inspires a specific, improvised response. The spare environment she has created for **PROJECTS** deliberately contrasts with her previous, generally more elaborate works. These were usually characterized by either the actual presence or

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