

## AROUND THE GALLERIES

Also at LACE, L.A. film and video artist **Kerry Tribe** shows "Florida," a projection piece that pairs audio reminiscences by elderly residents of nursing homes and retirement communities with video tracking shots of the natural landscape. The imminence of death slides over mythologies of the Sunshine State, land of the Fountain of Youth, like a nearly frictionless daydream.

The projection fills a large wall, floor to ceiling. Long, elegant tracking shots show swamps, waterways, sandy grasslands, orange groves and forests filled with gracefully dripping Spanish moss. These lovely, hypnotic pictures describe a world of beauty and decay, richness and desolation. Broad vistas of sandy dunes are linked to intimate glimpses of spider webs. The shots are never static. Tribe's camera continually moves, as if to stop would be to die.

When her camera slides over the water, glimmers of sunlight and reflections of sky disorient the view. Occasionally, she dips beneath the surface to a murkier place, where shafts of light pick out water plants and algae swirls about.

The lush imagery provides a visual context for the spare soundtrack, although the words and pictures are unhinged from one another. Each plays on a separate loop, creating random conjunctions and heightening the visual sense of a floating world.

The monologues, spoken in shaky and aged voices, mostly recall mundane circumstances

of the speaker's advanced years. Philosophical ruminations about death sometimes emerge, as when a woman reasonably remarks, "If there is any hereafter, it's in the minds of the people who knew you."

Tribe has helpfully provided nine large and comfortable lounging platforms, where you can sit or recline to watch the piece. However, a small but nagging technical problem intrudes

on the poetic meditation at the heart of "Florida." Echoes in the large room frequently make the soundtrack hard to follow. Straining to hear the words, you lose focus on the imagery. A minor defect, it nonetheless introduces a note of dissonance in an otherwise absorbing work.

**LACE** (Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions), 6522 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, (323) 957-1777, through Sunday. Open Fri., noon to 9 p.m., Sat. and Sun. 12-6.

By **CHRISTOPHER KNIGHT**  
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BRIAN FORREST

**DAYDREAM:** Tribe's "Florida" combines projections of natural scenery and audio reminiscences from nursing home residents.