

For Immediate Release

## **China Marks**

*Fabrications*

In her second exhibition of sewn drawings at Luise Ross Gallery, China Marks wields her industrial sewing machine with virtuosic dexterity to produce perplexing scenes of unknown and surreal characters. Comprised of scraps of commercially made fabrics, Marks's drawings juxtapose myriad patterns, textures, and forms. Spontaneous yet masterful, these works are fashioned from an automatic artistic process, where mysterious figures erupt into fantastic revelries – sometimes horrific, often whimsical, and always startling. What sometimes appear as benign storybook representations often turn out to be bizarre scenes of domination and struggle, which surprise the viewer lulled by the seemingly benevolent appearance of the fabrics. As unclearly as the relationships among the characters are defined, there is nonetheless a theatrical unity in the work, which serves not only as an illustration of the process of collage itself – disparate elements coming together as expression – but as a visual credo, which seems to pronounce 'this is what is happening when I am creating.'

*The New York Times* called her 2004 exhibition at Luise Ross Gallery "one of the season's more original shows," and the present exhibition reveals an artist in hot pursuit of a singular and magical vision, who says "surprising myself is my definition of success."

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**Dates:** **11 May - 24 June 2006**

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