



“Reworking Concepts of Beauty” (excerpt), by Cynn timer Gaasch / *Artvoice* July 10 – 16, 2003

Subtlety often allows the average to evolve. Kim Beck’s three works come together in an installation titled “Climate Controlled, “ which smartly uses technology and gracefully unfolds into an evocative work of art. At first glance, a floor rug and handheld video monitors are, well, unimpressive. What calls for further investigation are the simply drawn architectural renderings of drive-up storage rental spaces. Overlapping, they become stately as they wrap around a corner and a door in the gallery space. These drawings require you to step around the rug, which nearly fills the floor of the gallery. Walking down the two-foot space allows you time to recognize the strangeness of a stark digital image of an airplane and power lines printed onto an industrial grade carpet.

Strange and lovely, the slightly reflective and rough surface of the rug is as evocative as many paintings, and you can’t help but feel like you’d like to fall into the sky of the image. Rewarding you for the trip down the narrow space are two identical digital video loops, each 10 seconds in length, showing on wall mounted, handheld digital televisions. Here, Beck again captures the ordinary to create beauty. A cloud blossoms upward over and over again, framed by telephone poles, wires and streetlight. Altogether, the room becomes a tribute to our everyday world and elevates it to a space for reflection.