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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**VIJA CELMINS, LIZ DESCHENES, AND ZOE LEONARD**

**28 June - 4 August**

**Opening Wednesday, 28 June from 6 to 8 pm**

Tracy Williams, Ltd. is pleased to present its summer exhibition of works by Vija Celmins, Liz Deschenes, and Zoe Leonard. A unique selection of works by each of the artists will be exhibited throughout the gallery's three main spaces. By means of photography, each of these artists shares in the archival practice of translating the quotidian into the particular. By creating a textured backdrop for the banal, the artists' are able to inscribe the experience of memory into their work.

Vija Celmins was born in Riga, Latvia and currently lives and works in New York and California. Originally associated with 1960's Pop Art, Celmins later distinguished herself outside of the historical moment as an artist who, according to Dave Hickey, has "always made a virtue of displacement". She received international attention early on for her highly skilled renditions of natural scenes. In her work, Celmins uses photographs to interpret her paintings, taking an image of a bomber plane made memorable to her through a childhood growing up during WWII, or universal landscapes of flat ocean water or the night sky. On view will be a unique set of prints, etchings, and drypoints. Retrospectives of her work have traveled to the Whitney Museum of American Art, The Walker Art Center, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, The Institute of Contemporary Art, London, The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, The Philadelphia Institute of Contemporary Art, and in 2002 a retrospective of her prints was held at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Liz Deschenes, a New York based artist, employs silver-toned photograms, as a reference to the Daguerreotype - one of the initial photographic processes that have often been referred to "as a mirror with a memory". These reflective photographs are void of content; they function like mirrors requiring the viewer to activate the work. Deschenes recently received a grant from the Anonymous Was a Woman Foundation and has been living and working in France for the last year.

Zoe Leonard, a New York based artist, will be exhibiting photographs from her *Aerial* series (1986-90). Leonard uses photography as document to record the spaces she encounters and translate them into personal and often subjective narratives. The prints are full frame and include any scratches in the negative, giving a roughness to her prints as a way of letting the viewer into her process. For Leonard, photography is a dual means of observation and re-interpretation, providing the viewer with a new context for which to frame the artist's chosen images. Leonard's new body of work, *Analogue*, will be on view at the Wexner Center for the Arts in Spring 2007.

For more information, please contact the gallery at 212.229.2757.

**Join us for the opening on Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8 p.m.**

Please note that after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend, the gallery will be open Monday to Friday from 11- 6. The gallery will be closed for the better part of August and will reopen with an exhibition of new works by Olav Christopher Jenssen in September.