

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
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ON BILLBOARDS AROUND NEW YORK CITY FELIX GONZALEZ-TORRES WORK CHALLENGES NOTIONS OF PRIVATE AND PUBLIC

The work is part of the Werner and Elaine Dannheisser Collection, on View at The Museum of Modern Art from September 30, 1997–January 20, 1998

Beginning on September 1, 1997, a work by Felix Gonzalez-Torres (1957–96) will be on view at various sites around New York City as part of the exhibition *On the Edge: Contemporary Art from the Werner and Elaine Dannheisser Collection*, opening at The Museum of Modern Art on September 30, 1997. The work, *Untitled* (1991), consists of a single enlarged black-and-white photographic image—that of an empty double bed—displayed on twelve billboards in Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Queens. (See below for a list of exact locations.)

In addition to its urban locations, the picture will be pasted to a gallery wall as part of *On the Edge: Contemporary Art from the Werner and Elaine Dannheisser Collection*, on view through January 20, 1998. The Collection, one of the most significant gifts of contemporary art the Museum has ever received, was given last year by Elaine Dannheisser and the Dannheisser Foundation. Organized by Robert Storr, Curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture, the exhibition is supported in part by TDI.

First presented in the Museum's *Projects* series in 1992, the billboard-scale image of the bed with its rumpled sheets and pillows, clearly imprinted with the traces of two people, is an image without words, where absence, rather than presence, leaves an overwhelming impression.

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The permeable conceptual and physical boundaries separating what is considered “private” and “public” are central to much of the artist’s work. The tousled bed and the changeful, vital cityscape compete for attention. In displaying the work within the relatively intimate space of the Museum and the very public arena of New York City, Museum visitors and passersby are challenged to consider the image’s private content, its personal connotations, and its public context.

As part of *On the Edge: Contemporary Art from the Werner and Elaine Dannheisser Collection*, Felix Gonzalez-Torres’s *Untitled* (1991) is installed at the following sites through January 31, 1998.

Brooklyn

4th Avenue and 65th Street
 5th Avenue and 94th Street
 Fort Hamilton Parkway and 61st Street
 65th Street and Bay Parkway

Manhattan

Manhattan Bridge and Henry Street
 41st Street and 8th Avenue
 14th Street and 10th Avenue
 West Side Highway and 48th Street

Queens

Roosevelt Avenue and College Point Avenue
 Rockaway Boulevard and Liberty Avenue
 Metropolitan Avenue and Aubrey Avenue
 Yellowstone Boulevard and Austin Street

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For further information or photographic materials, contact Lisbeth Mark, Department of Communications, 212/708-9847. Visit our Web site at www.moma.org. No. 52