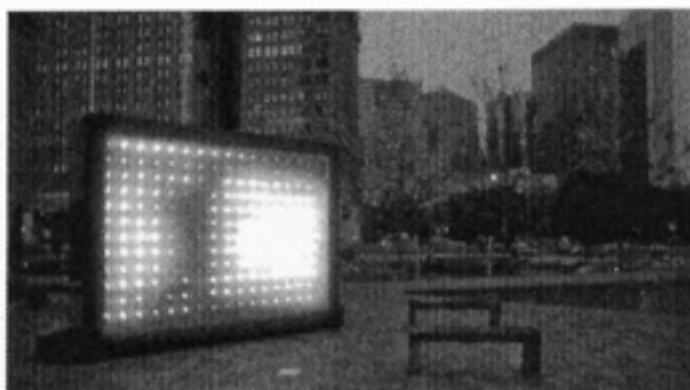


VAN ALEN REPORT

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DOWNTOWN ART

by ZOË RYAN



Primal Graphics 2002, by Jim Campbell, featured February-September, 2002 in Art on the Plaza, a Creative Time program PHOTO: WWW.CHARLIESAMUELS.COM

"My work connects to September 11 in an optimistic way by trying to bring energy to an area that has been very quiet," says Jim Campbell of his installation *Primal Graphics 2002*, on view in the plaza of the new Ritz-Carlton New York, Battery Park. Organized by Creative Time, a non-profit organization with a long history of public art projects in downtown Manhattan (including Art on the Beach, see 20th Century History p14), *Primal Graphics 2002* is made from a steel box inset with 386 flashing light bulbs set on two 10 x 13-foot grids that generate the shadowy image of a human figure walking. The first of 10 projects that will run for six months each over a five-year period, Campbell says, "It is part of a series I have been working on that deals with physical struggle through the metaphor of running and falling." Anne Pasternak, Creative Time's Executive Director explains that the timeless themes of rebirth, trial and error and memory and loss explored in Campbell's work give residents of the neighborhood the opportunity "to pause and reflect and have a new daily experience." Continuing, she adds, "We have had lots of positive in-person feedback." Also

in Lower Manhattan is ART DOWNTOWN, organized by Wall Street Rising. Located in five buildings in the Financial District, work by artists including Louise Bourgeois, Julian Schnabel, Nan Goldin and Donald Judd, among oth-

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CREATIVE TIME

ers, is on view through September 15. "The important message generated by these art projects is that New York is about moving forward but at the same time allows for contemplation," says Pasternak.

See further projects by Jim Campbell in "Walk Ways" by Stuart Horodner, out this fall, published by Independent Curators International.