

## **Internationally Known Artist to Give Public Talk & Forum at Alfred University**

3/15/00

Alfred, NY -- Diana Thater, an award-winning artist who creates video installations, will give a lecture and hold a forum Thursday and Friday (March 23-24) at Alfred University. The public is invited to both events. Admission is free. Thater's lecture, "Diana Thater: Delphine and Recent Works," will be at 4:30 p.m. Thursday in Holmes Auditorium, Harder Hall. The open forum runs from 11:20 a.m. to 12:35 p.m. Friday in room 221 of Scholes Library. Thater creates large-scale video installations through which she invites viewers to enter cinematic space. Monumental landscapes explore the relationships between human and nonhuman animals, human beings and nature, and nature and technology. With an innovative use of video techniques, Thater creates fragmented narratives that have no fixed point of view. In addition to a 1998 solo show at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, Thater has had solo exhibitions in Austria, France, Italy, Switzerland, and Germany. In 1993, she was awarded a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship. In 1998 she was chosen for the highly competitive International Artist-Residence Program at ArtPace. While there, she worked with musician and composer T. Kelly Mason to create "The Future That Almost Wasn't," a collaborative performance piece that incorporates hundreds of elements, including news footage of the Black Panther movement of the 1960s, clips of swimmer Esther Williams, and film clips depicting the Big Bang with which the universe may have begun and may someday end. Thater was born in 1962 and lives in Los Angeles. Her visit to AU is sponsored by the School of Art and Design, whose Visiting Artist Program is partly financed by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.