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Contact:

Shaye Remba

Lea Remba

Phone 310-657-1101

Fax 310-657-1153

Yong Sin: *Being and Nothingness*

The Remba Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of new work by Los Angeles based artist Yong Sin. The exhibition will take place at the Remba Gallery at 462 N. Robertson Blvd. in West Hollywood from January 9 to February 20, 1999. An opening reception for the artist will be held on Saturday, January 9 from 6-9 P.M.

The title of Yong Sin's exhibition: *Being and Nothingness*, is based on a direct quote by existentialist Jean Paul Sartre. The meaning of Sartre's statement "existence precedes essence" is the basis for Sin's work, in which she takes the responsibility to heal the fact that we exist.

Yong Sin's exhibition will consist of small black and white photographs and several large collage works on wood panels.

The photographs are typical family pictures in ornate frames. What makes them different however is that she selectively paints out the faces and sometimes even the whole body of particular persons in the photograph. By painting out the features of the individual characters, she makes them ubiquitous creating a universal family portrait.

The particular moment becomes lost by the artist brushstroke creating a timeless image, in which the humanity is not forfeited, just the human likeness.

There are three types of collages presented in the exhibition, including panels that are made from small strips of delicately ornamented wallpaper, which are individually finger painted at the ends, and a series of panels stretching to 30" x 170" inches, meticulously covered by adhesive tape. In both of these series one can appreciate the repetitive qualities that create natural patterns.

The third series of panels, consisting of photo-based collages, serve as a bridge between the photographs and the other sets of artworks. By incorporating many small portraits that were Xeroxed from family albums, then reduced, individually cut out and mounted on each panel, a grid of elements is created. From a distance it appears as if they are abstract forms, only when one looks closely, an assembly of nameless people is revealed to the viewer.

The accumulation of simple elements is the backbone of Yong Sin's artwork. The incessant repetition of each element creates labor-intensive processes that by her own words bring her to understand her own existence. In her work every small addition enlarges the scope and voice of each piece. Collectively the work consolidates a visual and conceptual layering that unifies the overall language of her art.