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Parisian artist's work at Art Center

# Nicole Gravier

will be exhibiting the Cartes Postales of Nicole Gravier between the dates of April 3 and April 30. By means of an ironic iconographical mutation, this Parisian artist comments upon what can best be described as a 'sociology of cultural monuments. Her parrallel images invite us to reconsider the iconic meaning of certain buildings, sculptures and paintings that have been frozen, as it were, into the collective consciousness of culture, that have become divorced present human and social experience, that have become stratified into static and self-enclosed objects in the abstract domain of historical consciousness. That Gravier regards the cultural monument, with all its weight of structured and authoritarian associations, to be presently abstracted from man is suggested by her attempts to re-human-



ize the ubiquitous post-card icon by means of her own presence, the presence of casual passers-by, or by contrast with the comparative innocence of kitsch and naive versions. Her work would seem to be

motivated by a desire to restore once more, however briefly, certain monuments that are now ossified into symbols of national or political pride to the true domain of art - the imagination of man.

## Lenny a reality

In the late '50's an American comedian became famous by verbally breaking the prevailing moral standards. Through his comdey Lenny Bruce made it clear to the public that it is not words that are vulgar but the associations we form concerning them. Extending this philosophy he tried to show even the associations were clean and decent. Today this may appear self-evident but at that time this man was termed a disgusing pervert.

A biographical film of Lenny Bruce, simply entitled "Lenny" is now playing at Paramount 2. Dustin Hoffman is "Lenny" and Valerie Perrine is his wife, Honey. In a sequence of events the audience meets Lenny with smiles, tears, disgust and regret. Dustin Hoffman makes Lenny a reality. To those of us who have never heard of Lenny Bruce we are able to

relate to his personality as contemporary and relevant by the end of the movie. It is ironic that what one man killed himself for 10 years ago is second nature today ironic and regrettable. However, times change and so do attitudes and moral standards. If Lenny were around today he would probably not be thrown in jail for obscenity -- in fact is is questionable if he would even considered obscene. Because of this the film tries to arouse the sympathies of the audience and borders on becoming a mere tear jerker. Through Hoffman's acting ability, however, the film is able to overcome this and dwell. not on fate, but on Lenny Bruce as a man. What a success the movie achieves is soley due to Hoffman.

Honey Bruce -- stripper, dyke, and drug addict is the "heavy film's valerie Perrine's reactions to the interviewer's questions are pathetic and emphasize her lack of talent. She throws a dark shadow over the character of Bruce, greatly detracting from his realism Ms. Perrine is not an actress and whatever the effect of Honey Bruce is supposed to be it is in fact draggy, dull and deplorable.

Shown in black and white, with often bleak settings "Lenny" achieves an aura of hopelessness. The conclusion is predicted with the opening scene. Often drifting the film sometimes loses the audience's attention only to return it promptly to the intriguing life of a man driven to death.



### Lady Audley's secret

**Theatre Arts Guild** 

Auditions will be held on Tuesday, April 1st for the Theatre Arts Guild musical production of "Lady Audley's Secret". Originally an obscure novel written by Mary Elizabeth Braddan in 1860, it was adapted for the stage in 1863 and was an immediate success. It continued to hold audiences enthralled for nearly 75 years.

The show has been adapted to the musical stage in the old melodramatic style, with a period score by George Goehring and lyrics by John Kuntz.

The musical met with great success as an Off-Broadway production.

The auditions for seven main roles and a small ensemble will be held in the Music Department, 5th Floor of the Nova Scotia College of Art Building, on Coburg Road at 7:30 pm Tuesday, April 1st.

Contact:
Michael Ardenne
Fine Arts Service
Continuing Education
Program
P.O. Box 2147
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Phone: 424-4378.

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