

# PHYLLIS KIND GALLERY

226 EAST ONTARIO  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611  
312/642-6302

139 SPRING STREET  
NEW YORK, NY 10012  
212/925-1200

PRESS INFORMATION.....

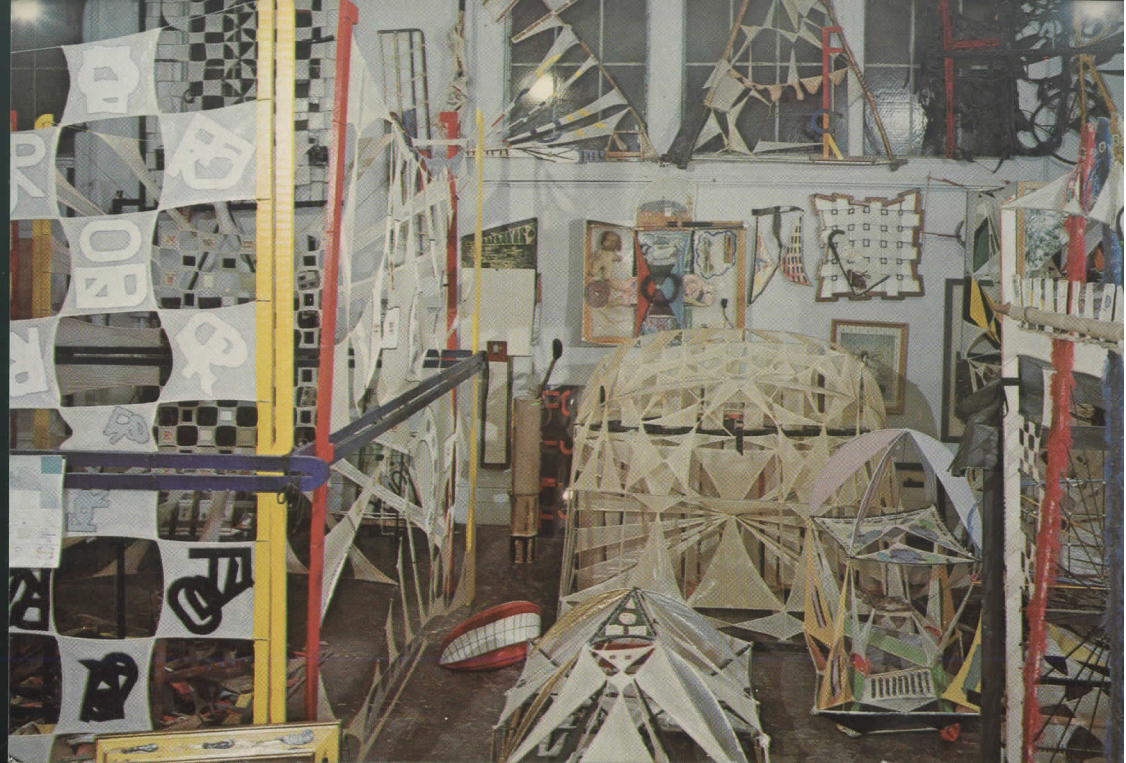
MARTIN JOHNSON AT PHYLLIS KIND

From January 15th thru February 16th 1980, the Phyllis Kind Gallery, 139 Spring Street, New York will exhibit work by MARTIN JOHNSON.

Johnson's work is the direct and continuous link between his ideas, the material of those (words), activities, the documentation of those (photographs), and things both found and constructed. It is an on-going and unceasing description of a universe proscribed by his own strictures-- a process the by-product of which is his art. His private ontology is structured on the word FOR (a union of OF and OR) which becomes for him simultaneously the core, the framework and part of the structure of his work both physically and ideologically.

All of this is not as important as the fact that the work itself is endlessly exciting, full of the energy activated by tireless quest-- by the very process in which Johnson is totally engaged. Objects are formed from the elements of his exploration (just so; words, photographs, jottings, drawings, sticks, stones, constructs and the shards of pre-fabricated commercial products) by encasing them in or surrounding them by a combination of rhoplex and cheesecloth. Thus, they themselves become part of a continuum. Frequently, small works grow into bigger ones-- they develop into a vocabulary of forms which are choreographed with such rhythm and force that one feels thrust into the activity itself. These works seem not only to express activity; but to be activity; not only to express a world-view, but to embody it.

This is the artist's first one-person exhibition. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday thru Saturday. For further information please call (212) 925-1200.



# MARTIN JOHNSON

Detail of artist's studio 1979

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1980, 5-7 P.M.

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