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MAYOR'S OFFICE  
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
94 OCT 17 PM 1:32

*Fax*

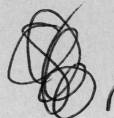
# MultiExpress

To:	Mayor Kenneth Reeves
To Fax Number:	349-4287
From:	Jim D'Entremont
From Fax Number:	16178685118
From Voice Number:	16174977193
Number of Pages To Follow:	2

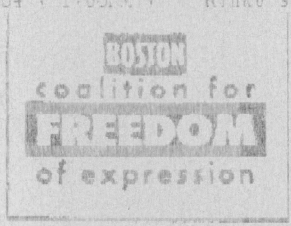
Message:

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SENT BY Kinko's Boston 1 / HBS 10-17-94 : 1:05PM : Kinko's Boston 1- 16178685118# 1



October 17, 1994

Mayor Kenneth Reeves  
Vice-Mayor Sheila Russell  
Members of the Cambridge City Council  
Cambridge City Hall  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mayor Reeves, Vice-Mayor Russell, and Members of the Council:

My name is James D'Entremont and I live at 296 Western Avenue, Cambridge. I am the principal spokesperson for the Boston Coalition for Freedom of Expression—a grassroots alliance of artists, writers, arts administrators, educators, and citizens concerned about censorship, arts advocacy, and the right of all segments of our society to be heard. We are the New England affiliate of the National Campaign for Freedom of Expression.

We ask that you allow the exhibit by Cambridge artist Hans Evers to complete its allotted time at Gallery 57, and we ask that you impose no content restrictions upon the Gallery or upon the Cambridge Arts Council. Cambridge has generously chosen to support the arts. It must therefore, in accordance with the First Amendment of the US Constitution, lend support to freedom of expression.

We ask you to make no changes to the peer-panel process that has been used to select artists for exhibition at Gallery 57. Publicly supported art should always be selected by those most qualified to judge it. Peer panels insure that decisions will be made for artistic, not political reasons. Evaluation of work by a jury of peers accords respect to artists as skilled working professionals.

Hans Evers is deservedly respected as an artist and teacher. Gallery 57 has sited his work in such a way that it is accessible only to those who wish to view it. The Arts Council and gallery staff have more than sufficiently addressed the concerns of workers at 57 Inman Street and members of the public who may object to certain images.

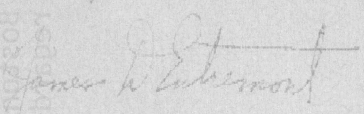
In fulfilling its mission to serve diverse constituencies, an Arts Council may offend one constituency while representing another. This is one of the strengths of democracy, and one of its pitfalls. The proper response to disagreement is discussion, not hysteria fueled by the bigotry of the gutter. The Cambridge Arts Council has responded to this controversy by encouraging dialogue among adults. Its critics should heed that example.

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I'm confident that Gallery 57 will continue to provide the citizens of Cambridge an opportunity to view outstanding work by local artists and that it will continue to respect the rights of those who choose to view future installations, as well as the rights of those who choose to avoid them.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



James D'Entremont

Consent Comm. No.

Regarding the art exhibited at Gallery 57, Boston's installation for Freedom of Expression, Comm. was received from James D'Entremont.

In City Council October 24, 1994

BOSTON COALITION FOR FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Consent Comm. #9

S-447

Comm. was received from James D'Entremont,  
Boston Coalition for Freedom of Expression,  
regarding the art exhibit at Gallery 57.

In City Council October 24, 1994

*Placed on file*