

# GLADSTONE GALLERY

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## Rosemarie Trockel: Spleen Dia Center for the Arts



Rosemarie Trockel, still from "Manus Spleen 4", 2002. Courtesy Barbara Gladstone Gallery

The German artist Rosemarie Trockel has been making work in a variety of media—textiles, video, drawing, sculpture—since the 1980s, and has been widely exhibited in Europe during the past two decades. This show (17 October-15 June 2003) is her first major museum exhibition in the US, where her many admirers—not least among them a current generation of women artists who have taken their cues from her subtle brand of feminist work—have relied on regular exhibitions at Barbara Gladstone, her New York gallery. Last year, the gallery displayed Trockel's drawings (a larger display of drawings was simultaneously on view at the Drawing Center

downtown), along with two entries from an ongoing series of videos entitled "Manu's Spleen". This enigmatic narrative unfolds further at Dia, where the two videos shown at Barbara Gladstone are accompanied by several more entries from the series (a total of eight videos are planned). A major element of the series is Ms Trockel's reference to Bertolt Brecht's groundbreaking, and famously controversial play "Mother Courage"; within this framework, Ms Trockel makes allusions to female cultural icons (Joan of Arc and Jackie O. among others), producing complex imagery that relies on models from television, theatre and film (above, still from "Manus Spleen 4", 2002). The videos are projected onto cantilevered aluminum walls, forming an installation that will occupy a 7,000 square foot space in Dia's building. The Drawing Center show last year was perhaps a warm-up: this promises to be Ms Trockel's moment. **S.D.**