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## Jennifer Bartlett *In the Garden (1980-83)*

August 1–September 27, 2014

Reception: Friday, September 5, 5:30-7:30pm



*Night*, 1983, oil on three canvases, 84 x 180 inches

Locks Gallery is pleased to present *In the Garden (1980-83)*, an exhibition that reunites the acclaimed paintings from Jennifer Bartlett's early 1980s series. The works will be on view August 1 through September 26, 2014 with a reception on Friday, September 5th, from 5:30-7:30pm. A fully-illustrated catalog, with an essay by critic Gregory Volk, accompanies the works on view.

This exhibition coincides with *Epic Systems*, an exhibition at the Cleveland Museum of Art (September 7, 2014 through February 22, 2015) that will unite Jennifer Bartlett's three career-spanning monumental enameled steel plate paintings: *Rhapsody* (1975-76), *Song* (2007), and *Recitative* (2009-10). This pairing of exhibitions represents how Bartlett's career has moved fluidly between Minimalism's coolness and a distinctly contemporary return to realism, always utilizing a systematic approach to the conceptual realization of each project. Both *Rhapsody* and *In the Garden* are simultaneously a pictorial world unto themselves and a foreshadowing roadmap of future projects in her career.

During and after her travels to a villa in Nice, France in 1979-80, Jennifer Bartlett embarked on an ambitious freehand drawing project of nearly 200 unique perspectives, experimenting with countless modes of representation of the villa's garden. After her well-celebrated gallery installations of the works on paper, Bartlett embarked on equally riveting paintings that experimented with serial perspectives of the same scene and

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psychologically charged re-imaginings of her surroundings.

Writer Gregory Volk notes: “The remarkable thing is how this exhaustive and systematic, yet extremely diverse anatomy of a banal backyard scene winds up so emotive and complicatedly human, suffused with longing and alienation, grace and agitation, loveliness and unease.” Bartlett’s *In the Garden* continues to reveal its true urgency through the artist’s cinematic relationship to painting from photographs, the felt curiosity for pictorial representation, and dialogue with the many languages in painterly history.

This exhibition celebrates the full breadth and legacy of this four-year project, characteristic of the changing relationship to images in the 1980s. The publication notably brings together the works in the exhibit with pieces in museum collections, surveying the full range of drawings, prints, and major paintings.

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**Jennifer Losch Bartlett** (b. Long Beach, CA, 1941) received her B.A. from Mills College, CA, and her B.F.A. (1964) and M.F.A. (1965) from Yale University, CT. Her works are in the collections of Baltimore Museum of Art, MD; Berkeley Art Museum, CA; Brooklyn Museum, NY; Cleveland Museum of Art, OH; Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, TX; Denver Art Museum, CO; de Young Museum, CA; Fogg Art Museum, MA; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY; The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX; The Museum of Modern Art, NY; Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, MO; North Carolina Museum of Art, NC; Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, PA; Philadelphia Museum of Art, PA; Princeton Art Museum, NJ; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, CA; Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.; Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, VA; Walker Art Center, MN; Whitney Museum of American Art, NY; Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT; and The Tate Gallery, London, England, among others.

Bartlett is the focus of a new exhibition *Epic Systems: Three Monumental Paintings* at the Cleveland Museum of Art through February 22, 2015. Her recent retrospective *History of the Universe*, curated by Klaus Ottman traveled to the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, PA and Parrish Art Museum, NY, with an accompanying catalog. Other solo exhibitions have taken place at the Addison Gallery of American Art, MA; Walker Art Center, MN; The Brooklyn Museum, NY; The Tate Gallery, UK; Baltimore Art Museum, MD; and The Wadsworth Atheneum, CT.

This is Jennifer Bartlett’s thirteenth solo exhibition at Locks Gallery.

*Locks Gallery is located at 600 Washington Square South in Philadelphia, PA. Gallery hours for August are Monday through Friday, 10 am to 6 pm; in September they return to regular gallery hours, Tuesday through Saturday from 10am to 6pm. For additional information, please contact Locks Gallery at 215.629.1000, 215.629.3868 fax, or [info@locksgallery.com](mailto:info@locksgallery.com).*

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