

## JENNIFER LEVONIAN'S ARTIST STATEMENT

The theme of my recent body of work alludes to title of Paul McCarthy's performance piece "Household Dilemma." Neither the general consumer nor the artist escapes the imposition of the "household dilemma." It goes as follows: take Control of your space, organize, keep it clean, be careful of holes or gaps that allow the outside in. In short, the household dilemma demands that we impose order on the world around us, especially where we find none! So we can unburden ourselves with prefabrication, whether it be the prefabricated spaces of Ikea or the empty stacked cubicles of a dollhouse. The solution to the dilemma is illusive. My work attempts to take the dilemma in two directions which are intimately bound: the construction of a space and the ways that we populate or inhabit that space. My drawings hope to pose a dilemma which can be cast formally between the figure and the background. How can we insert a figure into a space in which it does not feel at home? How can we make a home in a space that is uncanny? Decoration within this context takes on a strange and disturbing quality. Wallpaper becomes as much about what it hides as about the surface it decorates and furniture becomes more of a sign for the absence of any human presence than a place where the human finds comfort. The dilemma: you must occupy a space, but in doing so you will be alienated from that space.