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THE LOWER MANHATTAN CULTURAL COUNCIL IN COLLABORATION WITH THE LOWER EAST SIDE TENEMENT MUSEUM PRESENTS

FLIGHT

An Artist Installation by Alia Hasan-Khan
March 2-May 18, 2003

**Opening Reception: Thursday, March 6 from 6-8 PM
in the Museum's Visitors Center, 90 Orchard Street at Broome Street**

Flight, by Alia Hasan-Khan, is the third installation in the yearlong exhibition series, **Points of Entry**, for the storefront windows at 97 Orchard Street. **Points of Entry**, a partnership between LMCC and the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, explores the significance of immigrant communities in New York City, their experiences since 9/11 and the issues surrounding new immigration policies.

Flight looks at contradictions surrounding the idea of America as the land of opportunity for immigrants. In the aftermath of 9/11, fear of further attacks has been used to justify the erosion of civil liberties in the name of security. During this time thousands of Arabs, South Asians and Muslim men have been detained and deported for minor immigration violations or suspected illicit actions. This project reflects on the specter of fear that has transformed the most ordinary and innocuous of actions or objects into the most ambiguous and threatening.

Alia Hasan-Khan is a Pakistani artist working and living in New York. Her recent work is concerned with stereotypes and mainstream American representations of Muslims and

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Pakistanis, specifically. She received her BFA from the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture in Karachi, her MFA from Tufts University/School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston and is a graduate of the Whitney Museum of Art Independent Study Program in New York City. She has been included in exhibitions across the United States notably in New York at the Bronx Museum of Art and the Jay Grimm Gallery, the Baum Gallery at the University of Arkansas and the Contemporary Museum in Baltimore, Maryland. In 2001, Hasan-Khan participated with Susan Kelly in the Brewster Project, a collaborative public art program for the Village of Brewster in Putnam County, New York.

For 30 years, the **Lower Manhattan Cultural Council** has contributed to the quality of downtown life by creating a fertile environment for arts groups and artists and presenting free programs in the visual, performing and new media arts in alternative, free-to-the-public settings. Now one of Manhattan's most far-reaching arts councils, LMCC is a primary source of support services-including grants, residencies, presentation opportunities and professional development-for artists Downtown and throughout the diverse communities of Manhattan. LMCC's Visual and Media Arts Programs are supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. Additional information on our programs and exhibitions is available online at www.lmcc.net.

The heart of the **Lower East Side Tenement Museum** is its landmark tenement building, home to nearly 7,000 immigrants from over 20 nations, between 1863 and 1935. The Museum's artistic programming is as old as the institution itself and focuses on projects that help expand visitors' understanding of contemporary immigration through works inspired and informed by history. Productions have been developed by leading arts organizations, including Doug Varone and Dancers, Red Dive Productions, City Lights Youth Theatre, the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council and the Immigrant Theater Project.

The Lower East Side Tenement Museum's programs are developed in keeping with its mission: "To promote tolerance and historical perspective through the presentation and interpretation of the variety of immigrant and migrant experiences on Manhattan's Lower East Side, a gateway to America." Visitors to the Tenement Museum tour carefully restored tenement apartments and learn about the lives of actual past residents: the Gumpertz family, German Jews (1870s), the Rogarshevsky family, Eastern European Jews (1918), and the Baldizzi family, Italian Catholics (1930s). An interactive, living history family oriented program focuses on the Confinos, Sephardic Jews from Greece (1916). In February 2002, the Levine family home and sweatshop became the fifth restored apartment at 97 Orchard Street.

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