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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Pamela Talese

### A SHORT SEASON IN THE NAVY YARD

September 20<sup>th</sup> - October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2005

Atlantic Gallery is pleased to present its second exhibition of paintings by Pamela Talese, from September 20<sup>th</sup> to October 8<sup>th</sup>, with a reception on Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8pm.

“A Short Season in the Navy Yard” continues the artist’s focus on urban construction, land use, and its implied impact on city history which began with her last show in September 2003 entitled “718: Changing Neighborhoods in Brooklyn & Queens”.

The Brooklyn Navy Yard, which, like so many industrial areas in the country that once formed the backbone of our nation’s economy, now reflects the country’s shift away from massive manufacturing to mid- size businesses but it still serves traditional marine maintenance needs. With the city’s current and almost myopic focus on Waterfront Real Estate, The Yard also provides the sand, gravel and cement that will build the new stadiums and structures the city’s planners promise.

Talese’s pictures are all painted on-site and focus on broad scenes of shipyard activities as well as smaller vignettes, oddball assemblages of machinery and debris that the artist regards as “Still-Lives, Super-Sized.” They are rendered with visual accuracy and are not without comment. Talese’s love of an older New York is present in these images: the crane tracks once used to build the great warships — now half submerged — wind like basting thread through new asphalt roads. Civil war cannons are strewn about, or are upended and reused as docking posts. Also featured are images of architecture and areas of obsolescence, places put on ‘on-hold’ until development decisions are made. Tall grass grows from a concrete dune, and ivy fingers up toward the mansard roof of the Surgeon’s House. By contrast Dry Dock 1, completed in 1851, is still in constant use. The artist asks us to reconsider the open space, gritty grandeur, and occasional absurdity of these arrangements as they represent a set of simpler values for which many already feel nostalgic.

The paintings in this exhibition is the first part of a larger series as Pamela Talese continues to work at the Brooklyn Navy Yard.