

# dART

I N T E R N A T I O N A L

## **Renée Cox at Christinerose**

While Renée Cox's superhero alter ego, Rajé, was battling injustice and villainy in her large cibachrome photos at Christinerose Gallery, Renée herself spoke to the public in civilian attire. But unlike Clark Kent, who merely has to act human, Renée Cox had to take rest and munch breaks. That was OK because Rajé was all motion on the gallery walls.

She battled it out with a bald Lex Luthor type clad in a business suit. Rajé took fists to a stone swastika monument, and she managed to zip backwards in history to stop French Napoleonic soldiers from taking potshots at the sphinx.

Seeing Rajé in regular clothes in the gallery nicely counterpoints the reality with the fantasy. Comic book heroes and heroines rarely get *their* suits dirty. Rajé's jauntness in her battle against the KKK and the Nazis reminds us of the brutal and grubby nastiness of real wars.



Renée Cox, *Taxi*, 1997. Cibachrome, edition of three, 40" x 60".