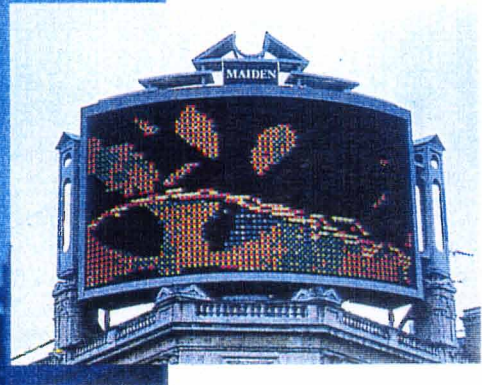
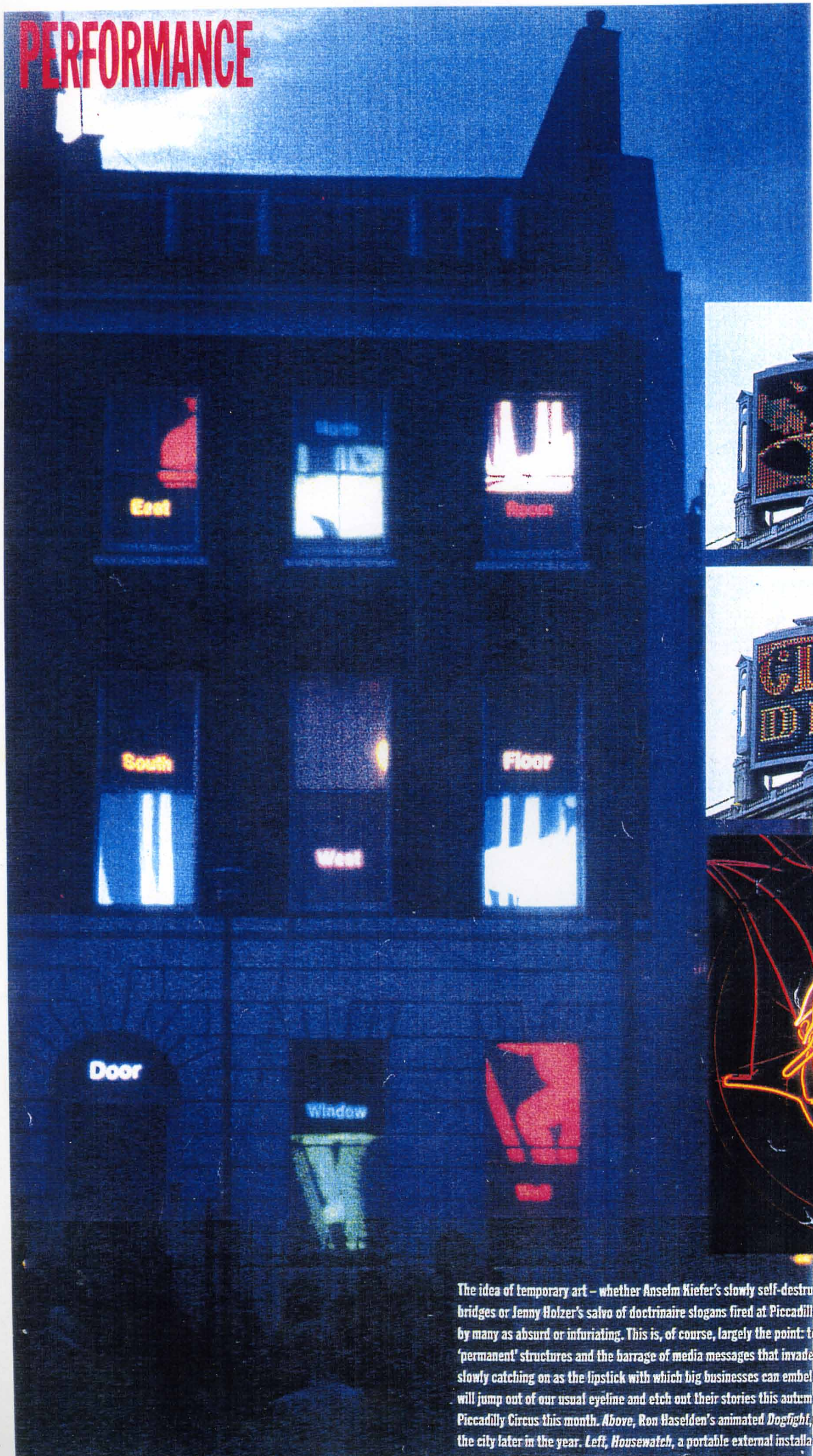


PERFORMANCE

art

NEON AND OFF
Public temporary art



The idea of temporary art – whether Anselm Kiefer's slowly self-destructing canvasses, Christo's gift-wrapped bridges or Jenny Holzer's salvo of doctrinaire slogans fired at Piccadilly Circus shoppers last Christmas – is greeted by many as absurd or infuriating. This is, of course, largely the point: to challenge our complacency towards both 'permanent' structures and the barrage of media messages that invade us from all sides. Temporary public art is slowly catching on as the lipstick with which big businesses can embellish their gorillas. A posse of neon images will jump out of our usual eyeline and etch out their stories this autumn. *Top right*, Tina Keane's *Circus Diver*, at Piccadilly Circus this month. *Above*, Ron Haselden's animated *Dogfight*, to be suspended from multi-storey cranes the city later in the year. *Left*, *Housewatch*, a portable external installation by six artists, 1986. □