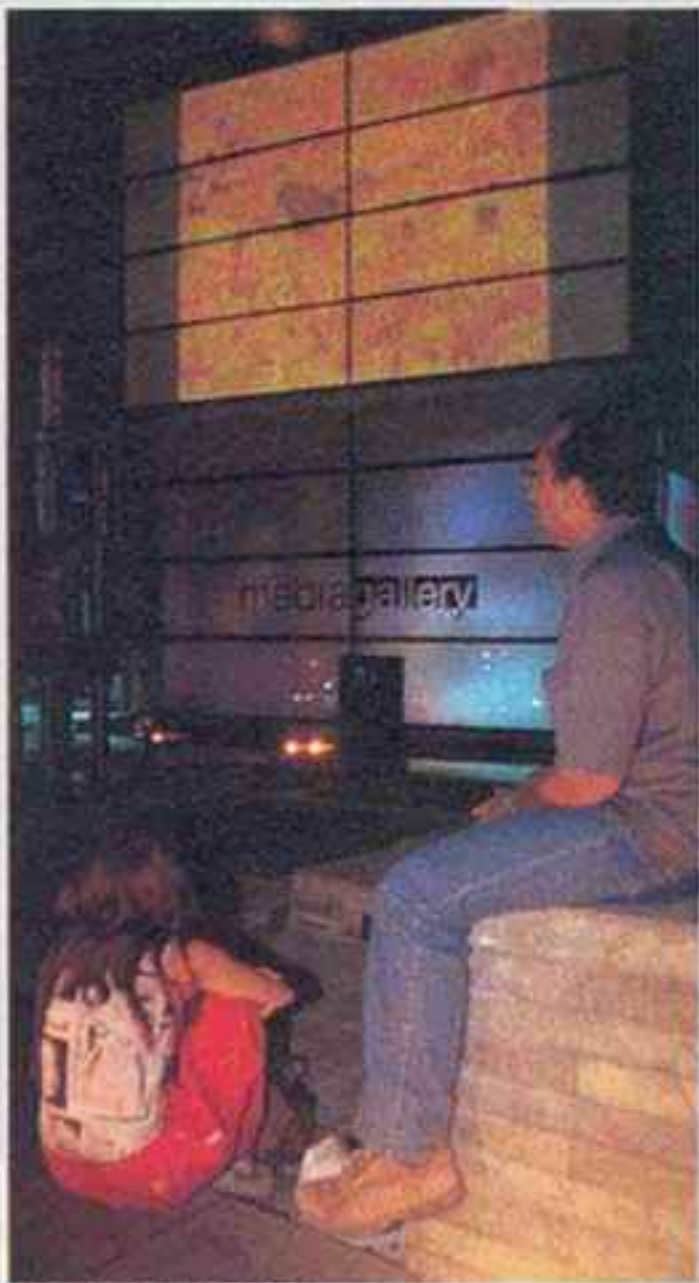


Sense and Smelling Salts

All that is trendy and tempting, a magnet for the eyes and a shock for the wallet, is in



CREATIVITY UNPLUGGED:
A video installation at the
Apeejay Media Gallery

Writing about aesthetics in Delhi, the most powerful centre of visual activity after Wajid Ali's Lucknow, traditionally requires composure, compassion ... and some smelling salts. Now, I think you need less of all three. Look at the stuff showing at the Apeejay Media Gallery in the suburbs or in the throne room of India Habitat Centre (ihc), a post-modern imambara cast in Dhaulpur stone and fibre glass. I like these places. On the opening night of an exhibition, the air is congealed with the promise of edgy art and Vin Ballet and throbbing with creators and coaches who nod knowingly and talk about Nan Goldin whom they saw at the Pompidou.

Out here, photo-realism is in, so is