PICK OF THE WEEKEND

IN THE GALLERY

By Whitney Scott

■ ROOM WITH A VIEW: Given that Barbara Gladstone's new space in Chelsea is still under construction, Gary Hill's video installation featuring life-size workmen projected onto an expanse of gallery wall seems a natural choice for her inaugural show.

Showing for the first time in New York, Hill has spliced together images of day laborers doing nothing but blinking, shifting and staring. The effect is similar to viewing a prison line-up through a one-

way mirror.

Hill's subtext involves the complex emotions surrounding everyday confrontation. But while these plaid-clad fellows seem like ordinary street types, they're also a bit like ghosts. Eerily present yet untouchable, they disperse into tiny particles of color and light as you approach them. Through Dec. 21st.

■ TALKING HEADS: Longtime video artist Bruce Nauman has produced a four-piece installation at Sperone Westwater using a repetition of words — "I'll talk, you'll listen," or "you'll talk, I'll listen" — as a kind of purposefully overly-simplified answer to world peace.

The works are like talking portraits that try in vain to communicate with one another. Projected onto walls or received by TV monitors, the videos feature various characters (from actors to ranch hands) reciting the diplomatic mantras.

All of this chanting results, ironically, in a cacophony of sound throughout the gallery, which makes any kind of peace (no less world peace) a rather difficult proposition. Through Dec. 14th.

■ MUST SEE: Elinore Hollinshead's recent mixed media paintings at Nancy Moore Fine Arts are like complex memoirs: They weave dense combinations of collaged material such as text, leaves, acorns, shards of glass and bones, amazingly blending painting and three-dimensional elements. Through December 21st.

