

Dear Mr. Misiano

I do not know if you remember me, but, we had met during the Sots art exhibition in New York, through the Drewchins. Since then, I had vbeen keenly following you articles on Soviet Art, especially the last year in Flash Art.

I will be the general director of the 3rd. Istanbul Biennial, to rtake place in september 1991. In the past, as you may have imagined Soviet participation had been quite meager, and hoplessly out of touch with the general scope of the Istanbul Biennials.

Relying on your keen dedication and expertise on Soviet Art in particular, I found it best to write before getting in touch with the cultural authorities in the Soviet Union, so that I may have a general idea of what to reccommend and ask for the curatorial choices or the choices of curators, who may be best suited to the project.

Relying on your expertise and keen dedication; you may get a notion of the past Istanbul Biennial from Flash Art..... For the first two, the Biennial relied on well known names from the west, which I assume was partly based on the need of attracting some attention.

I, on the other hand, do not believe in the use of recirculating well known names and travelling artists. The general, and I hope the subliminal theme of the 3rd Istanbul Biennial will focus on the lines of youth and cultural difference and contestation, in the spirit of the changing definitions of the margin and center, same and the other particularly in Europe,

Given the difficulty of operations and limited amount of funds, this only operates as a suggestion Dear Mr. Misiano:am Third Internationalscheduled to open on September 25, 1991Thirteen countries are invited to the Biennial, and Soviet Union is one of them.

Biennial h with the rest of the works exhibited there. be best suited to the projejt.The dual theme of the 1991 Biennial is youth, and cultural liberalism and pluralism.is

Our is a young but ambitious biennial and we had many well known artists (see Flash Artexhibit here in Istanbul. with Soviet Union among them.

and Jan-Feb 1990, 167 and 176) Please understand that Istanbul has yet to have a modern art museum or contemporary art center, and the Biennials are the only truly international activity that takes place. Thus, they are of paramount importance.I am writing out of a certain, perhaps ungrounded fear. in 1989 was in the exhibitions. ,folkloric and I am wondering if you could help me or show me the way to avoid such a showing for the next biennial.

As you may imagine, I got in touch with Mr. Vahdet Sultanzade from the Soviet Consulate in Istanbul. I went to the consulate in Istanbul, and presented him a letter of the Biennial's theme, scope and intention. Soviet participation is very important to me, and I don't want it to be spoiled due to misunderstandings.

The same procedure was followed two years before, and we had ended up with a folkloric painter from Azerbaijan. That was the case then.

My problem in short is that I don't want the Biennial to be taken for a craft fair where anything goes. A craft fair where anything goes, and it is difficult to relay this to the authorities here, because they are not well versed in contemporary art. Without the forewarning of the authorities here, they may not be able to pass on the information to the Ministry of Culture in proper detail.

before

Thank you deeply in advance for your cooperation in this matter.
Any help or advice you give me will be extremely helpful.