

September 25th, 2001

**Platform: Ottoman Bank Contemporary Art Center
opens its doors with Carsten Nicolai's "snow.noise".**

*"They say that every snowflake is different.
If that were true, how could the world go on?
How could we ever get up off our knees?
How could we ever recover from the wonder of
it?"*

Jeanette Winterson, *The Passion*

Platform: Ottoman Bank Contemporary Art Center was inaugurated with Carsten Nicolai's "**snow.noise**" exhibition on Saturday, September 22nd. "**snow.noise**" is one of the exhibitions organized in the context of the 7th Istanbul Biennial under the auspices of Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts. Curated by Yuko Hasegawa, the exhibition closes on November 17.

"**snow.noise**" transforms Platform's exhibition space into a laboratory with racks of glass and copper tubes and rubber gloves lining the walls. On the walls, are Nicolai's drawings of different categories of snow crystals. The visitors are invited to observe the formation of snow flakes. An electronic sound track accompanying the project suggests the inaudible sounds of crystals developing. Nicolai shares Winterson's passion for the snowflakes' infinitely variable structure, which he considers a metaphor for human creativity. The idea is inspired from Japanese physicist Nakaya's experiments on creating artificial snow.

Carsten Nicolai (aka Noto), who had studied landscape design, is a Berlin based artist who is also known for his audio installations. He comes to audio as a multi-tasking artist, incorporating painting, sculpture, conceptual gardening and as the director of a recording label. He has participated in the recent Venice Biennial, Documenta X and the Liverpool Biennial. Nicolai was the recipient of the Golden Nica Award of Ars Electronica in 2000, an award he shared with the artist Marco Peljhan in 2001.

Platform is Istanbul's new contemporary art center, an institution that incorporates new media practices and contemporary art. It houses a 3,500-volume library including books on the theory and history of contemporary art, exhibition catalogs, and periodicals. Additionally, the center has detailed archives on over 90 artists from Turkey, and documentation in video and audio formats.

Hours:

Gallery: Wednesday-Thursday 01:00 pm - 08:00 pm
Friday-Saturday 01:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Archive: Tuesday-Saturday 01:00 pm - 06:00 pm

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