

ARTISTS SPACE

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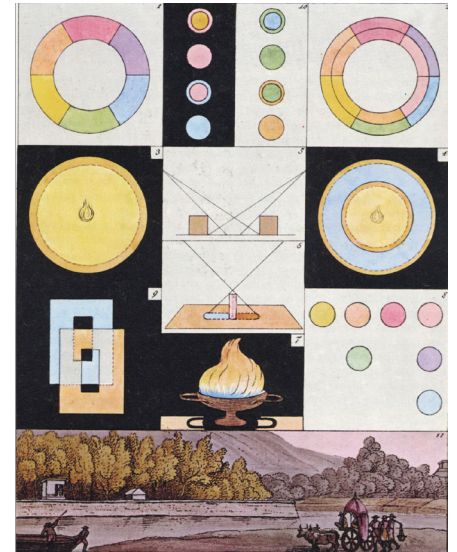
The columns held us up

July 8 - August 1, 2009

Reception: Tuesday, July 7, 2009, 7-9pm

(Performance by Jeremiah Day at 7:30pm)

Hüseyin Alptekin, Can Altay, Burt Barr, Daniel Bozhkov, Celine Condorelli, Jeremiah Day, Cevdet Ere, Corey McCorkle, Christodoulos Panayiotou, Wael Shawky, and *the invited (cordially uninvited)* curated by Krist Gruijthuijsen with Ben Kinmont, Lisa Oppenheim, Adam Pendleton, Julika Rudelius, Alexandre Singh and Jordan Wolfson



Diagrams showing color sense distortions from Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's "Theory of Color" (Study for Daniel Bozhkov's *Divan...the universe has no loyalty*, 2009-ongoing)

Artists Space is pleased to announce *The columns held us up*, a collaboration with Platform Garanti Contemporary Art Center, Istanbul, comprised of an informal exhibition and series of events curated by **Vasif Kortun and November Paynter**. The program will take place at Artists Space from July 8 - August 1, 2009.

At the end of 2007, Istanbul's Platform Garanti paused its exhibition program to undergo a major structural and organizational transformation into an interdisciplinary institution developed in partnership with Garanti Galeri. Still awaiting the renovation's completion, Platform's offices, residency, and archive have continued to function in a temporary location. With this in mind, Artists Space has invited Platform to program its gallery for the duration of July 2009 (framed much like a one-month artist residency) as an opportunity to realize a series of physical activities in the interim period between the closing of Platform's previous space and the launch of their new organization.

Platform will create a program that continues to reflect its fundamental approach to collaboration, focus on local art situations, and facilitation of residencies and discussion, all within the walls of Artists Space, with whom these institutional characteristics are strongly shared. Works by New York based artists that Platform has previously partnered with, as well as works by a roster of international artists who have spent time on their residency program in Istanbul, will be presented.

The columns held us up is a confluence of intertwining relationships and shared interests, based on the strength of thoughts and ideas to uphold or pillar a situation in the absence of structural parameters. Here, Platform takes into consideration those artists who have supported it during its eight years of development. A number of the selected works in the exhibition stem from intensive research of layered, everyday systems that accumulate to propose intricate narratives. For example, a collaborative multimedia installation by Can Altay and Jeremiah Day investigates Istanbul via the chain of production of stuffed mussels, the city's well-known street delicacy, while an itinerant work by Daniel Bozhkov hosts a site for storytellers that traces the journey of a family jewel, engraved with an Ottoman Persian poem, and the reflections on and translations of its meaning formed along the way. Other works have been chosen because they are, in themselves, systems or products of support, such as Celine Condorelli's structural intervention based on the study portrayed in the 1475 painting *St. Jerome in his Study* by Italian Renaissance master Antonello da Messina. Further works in the exhibition that embrace these ideas include the videos *Telematch Suburb* by Wael Shawky and *Self Portrait* by Burt Barr; a series of photographs titled *Hayvanat Bahçesi* by Corey McCorkle; the slide installation *Wonderland* by Christodoulos Panayiotou, and the installation *Kara-kum* by the late Hüseyin Alptekin.

continued

Additional activities build on past interests and concerns: Celine Condorelli's functioning intervention will host a book collection point, where institutions and artists can donate books that will travel to Platform's library in Istanbul at the close of the exhibition* (a project first presented as Collection Point at the Frieze Art Fair in 2006); a period of on-site work and research by artist Cevdet Erek; and *the invited (cordially uninvited)*, a series of collaborative events and performances organized by past Platform resident Krist Gruijthuisen that will take place in Artists Space's surrounding Soho neighborhood July 14-18. Please check www.artistsspace.org for event details and updates.

In collaboration with Platform Garanti, this exhibition has been organized by Meredith Johnson and Amy Owen.

*Book donations for Platform Garanti's library can be dropped off or sent to Artists Space during the months of June and July 2009. For further information please contact info@artistsspace.org.

CREDITS

The columns held us up is generously supported, in part, by The Dedalus Foundation and the Mondriaan Foundation, Amsterdam.



Mondriaan Stichting
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ABOUT ARTISTS SPACE

One of the first alternative spaces in New York, Artists Space was founded in 1972 to support contemporary artists working in the visual arts, video and electronic media, performance, architecture and design. The mission of Artists Space is to support artistic experimentation and dialog in contemporary culture.

For press inquiries, please contact Elizabeth Hirsch at 212.226.3970 x 303 or press@artistsspace.org