

Telefax Message from Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts
Third International Istanbul Biennial

Attention: Philip Breeden
From: Vasif Kortun

August 26, 1992

Fax: 251 5254
Total number of pages: 1

Address: Yıldız Kültür ve Sanat Merkezi- Beşiktaş 80700- Istanbul- TURKEY
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Dear Philip:

Please find in the following a fax for your and Rex's interest. I again have to put things on hold and delay other responsibilities for the never ending crisis of the U.S proposals. Please try to reach a positive result as soon as possible. The way to reach Patricio is with friendly persuasion and good will. I will do my best from here. Please also understand that these faxes are confidential, and not intended for Patricio's information.

Best

Vasif

Telefax Message from Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts
Third International Istanbul Biennial

Attention: Rex Moser
Arts America

Fax: 99 1 202 619 6315

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Re: Proposal for the U.S.A. exhibition

Confidential

Dear Rex:

I have spoken with Philip Breeden yesterday and Patricio Chavez at length this morning. The text is presently arrested at the graphic designer and I understand that the U.S. proposal risks cancellation yet for a second time.

The Biennial catalogue is quite good with a number of splendid essays in it. The U.S. text was not one of the stronger ones. The problem lies with the first page. The royal plural "we", and speaking in an all exclusionary tone for a 'nation' or major ethnic group is problematic, and not

presented as an interesting discursive position. Patricio may be right in what he is saying regarding the painful history and the social crisis in the U.S.A. But the issues are not articulated properly for an exhibition catalogue.

None of this of course requires the cancellation of the exhibition. I have gone along with your decision and did not make a big issue of the cancellation of the (In) visible Borders exhibition. A second cancellation seven weeks before the opening, with all the press-facts out, with the exhibitions design programmed puts us in an extremely difficult situation here. I would urge you to empathize with us in Istanbul, and I believe that you will do everything you can to let this exhibition be realized without any problems.

Sincerely,

Vasif Kortun
Director
Third International Istanbul Biennial