

Dear Mr. Munz:

I am sorry for this rather belated reply to your fax of February 4, 1993. Your inquiry was passed on to me rather late.

I was the director of the Third International Istanbul Biennial, and since the new director has not yet been appointed, I decided, to at least write you informally.

There have been three exhibitions of the kind in Istanbul to date, and they are managed by a non-profit foundation (Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts) which organizes an annual Summer Music Festival, a Film Festival, a Theater festival and a Biennial.

The Third Biennial (1992) took place in a newly renovated factory, the "Feshane". It will open as the first contemporary art museum of Istanbul later this year. The Biennial received very positive reviews and was covered extensively in the international media. I will see to it that they send you some materials about it.

The foundation has a long tradition working with institutions such as the British Council, USIA, Goethe Institut and et al. They tend to work with institutions rather than with individuals, that, of course does not mean it is a bureaucratic institution, and it is not government affiliated although it has the support of the ministry of culture and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Please do not hesitate to consider the Istanbul Biennial in your activities for 1994. The Istanbul Biennial is becoming one of the major arenas for exposure. I am well aware of the activities of the Australia Council, and despite the distances that separate these countries and continents, the collaboration would be fruitful and productive.

You can always contact me at my address and phone numbers on the first page.

Vasif Kortun

Director, Third International Istanbul Biennial (1992)
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