

Dear Ms. Sviblova:

It was a truly a pleasure to meet with you and hear your views on the story of Soviet Art, and benefit from the first-hand experience.

Enclosed you will find two letters: first, the one I have sent to the cultural attaché of U.S.S.R., Vahdet Sultanzade in Istanbul, and secondly a private letter to Victor Misiano in Moscow.

The Biennial was originally due to take place in September 25 1991. Unfortunately, the space I wanted to secure for the Biennial would not have been ready by then, in which case we would have to realize the Biennial in unsavory spaces around the city- which as you know, because of the traffic becomes a real problem. Also, a city like Istanbul, deserves a major Biennial, which would also stir the excitement towards a contemporary museum. The crisis in the Gulf also proved to be a major strain on sponsorship.
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Aillart I believe that a 12 month delay is worth what I will be able to organize. People in Turkey like to act hastily and may not exactly condone my decision in this matter. Be that as it may, I would rather see a tightly organized exemplary exhibition, rather than one scattered all around the city done solely for the sake of being on time.

I was very lucky to have met with you. because I was originally dead worried about the Soviet participation. Now that I know, we speak in similar languages, your participation will be of top of quality and with genuine intentions.

I look forward to your reply. Best wishes and continuing success in your work.

I am also very interested in your "End of the Century" project. I would be very happy if you can inform me in detail about the possible participation of artists from Turkey in the project.

Olga Sviblova

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possible

Sincerely,

Vasif K. Kortun