



# İSTANBUL KÜLTÜR VE SANAT VAKFI

İstanbul  
Feb. 5, 1992

Ms. Laura Trippi and Mr. Gary Sangster  
Co-curators, New Museum of Contemporary Art  
583 Broadway  
New York N.Y., 10012

Bölüm: Ist. Biennial  
Sayı: U.S. Exhibition  
Konu :

Dear Ms. Trippi and Mr. Sangster,

I have just received your fax yesterday evening which contained a series of inquiries about the U.S. participation in the Third Int'l Istanbul Biennial from Noreen Tomassi who was in Istanbul very briefly. I have also received another fax this morning from Rex Moser, and will try to answer your inquiries.

I should first say that I understand your worries, since I guess you have not been to Istanbul in the last few years, and you probably know very little about the Istanbul Biennial.

The restoration of the building is still going on, and we have yet to receive in March from Gae Aulenti, who has undertaken the project of the restoration, the design for the interior. That includes lighting, location and the types of the fixtures, other electrical outlets and the wall and floor solutions. The architect in residence here will be meeting with Ms. Aulenti next week, and I will have further information soon. I am eagerly waiting for her design project, so that we designate and finalize the exhibition areas.

I will also send this fax as a letter. Enclosed, you will find four photographs of the interior of the exhibition areas. As you will see the spaces are divided by columns at a distance of five meters from each other in symmetrical/square order.

There was a typing error in my dead-line letter to Phillip Breeden. As per my original letter of invitation, the space allocated to you is 350 m2.

You will also notice that the we will receive indirect, natural light from the roof via double-insulated, UV protected glass.

The works will be insured and there will be round the clock guards in the museum. I will soon inform you on the issue of climate control.

As far your trip to Istanbul goes, I think it would be best if you come in late April or early May. The week of March 9 would be too soon at this moment. We will be able to do preliminary work prior to your visit and finalize the nitty gritty when you are in Istanbul.



While in Istanbul, it would also be a good idea if we can arrange for you to give lectures, preferably on issues that border on your exhibition in somewhat an indirect manner. We are currently embarking on writing informative articles in Turkish journals on the artists in your exhibition. I would appreciate any and all pertinent material you would be able to send us on the artists. Please also include your final list, as I understand there have been some changes.

I have to say that I am extremely pleased about the New Museum's proposal, I am also thrilled that the organizing institution is the New Museum.

The project interests me in more ways than one. As someone who sees things from my geographical position, I think that your exhibition will be a positive intervention and example for artists in Turkey. The areas of inquiry are also quite legitimate for the people here as well, and they will hopefully requestion their own positions in a more critical light. It is a plateau which many so desperately miss here.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Vasif K. Kortun  
Director, Third International Istanbul Biennial

cc: Harriet Elam, U.S.I.A., Istanbul