

Ms. Anda Rottenberg  
Czerniakowska 159 m. 100  
00 - 453 Warsaw, Poland

Dear Ms. Rottenberg:

We had met during the conference, "Expanding Internationalism" in Venice, and I had written you along with a Curriculum Vitae to your address at the Ministry of Culture. Not having heard from you since, I assumed there was a problem with the mail.

This time, I am writing you about the Third International Istanbul Biennial, scheduled to take place between September 25 and October 31 1991. Poland included, thirteen countries are invited to the Biennial.

The dual theme of the 1991 Biennial is youth, cultural liberalism and pluralism.

Ours is a young and ambitious biennial and we had many well known artists (see Flash Art Jan-Feb 1990, 167 and 176) exhibit here in Istanbul before.

Please understand that Istanbul has yet to have a modern art museum or contemporary art center, and the biennials are the only truly international activity that take place. Thus, they are of paramount importance.

Poland's participation is very important to me, and I would like it to be a strong one.

As you may imagine, I got in touch with the Polish Consulate in Istanbul, and presented them a letter of the Biennial's theme, scope and intention.

My problem is that I don't want the Biennial to be taken for a small scale "bon pour L'orient" type of affair, and it may be difficult to relay this to the authorities here, because they are not accustomed to such offers coming from Istanbul.

In this respect any help or advice you would give me would be extremely useful.

Sincerely,

Vasif K. Kortun  
Director  
Third Istanbul Biennial

ps. I presented the invitation to the Consular Attaché,  
Mr. Miroslaw Stawski, at the Consulate General of the  
Republic of Poland in Istanbul