

Date: Wed, 14 Aug 2002 10:33:58 +0000
To: Brett.Rogers@britishcouncil.org
From: Vasif Kortun <kortun@netone.com.tr>
Subject: RE: message from Istanbul
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Brett:

Thank you very much for your message. Your kind words give us the strength to go on in these difficult times. It is a challenge to even think about the future let alone dream about it.

We would very much like to work with you on a project at some time in the future - it does not need to be a large project or one which you curate on your own. But all options are open. As to existing projects which might be of interest we have two new touring show - REALITY CHECK (new British photograph and video) curated by Kate Bush of the Photographers Gallery and myself which will be launched in London this October and STILL LIFE (a new touring show curated by Ann Gallagher who works in the department). You can find details of both shows on the Visual Arts website - www.britishcouncil.org/visualarts <<http://www.britishcouncil.org/visualarts>> . Alternatively we could send a proposal on both shows to you in the mail.

Let me know how you would like to proceed.
I have very fond memories of the time we worked together on the Istanbul Biennale when Damien Hirst and Hannah Collins showed together in that fantastic Fez factory.

Regards
Brett Rogers

-----Original Message-----
From: Vasif Kortun [mailto:kortun@netone.com.tr]

Sent: 26 July 2002 16:18
To: Brett.Rogers@britishcouncil.org
Subject: message from Istanbul

Dear Brett:

I hope you are having a great summer. I am writing you today to seek your advice and support regarding the institutions I have been working for in Istanbul. I was extremely pleased to be covered in the last issue of "Art Review" magazine published in London for "lighting the fuse" of the Istanbul scene. Both Proje4L Istanbul Museum of Contemporary Art and the Platform Garanti Contemporary Art Center were mentioned in the article generously and positively. I have just learned that local critics selected the best three shows of the year, and three exhibitions I did in 2001 were chosen the top three! It seems that I am finally getting decent local recognition. You may know that in the last year we had quite a full program, I am just listing them at the end of this message for your perusal.

It was a real pity that we have not been able to bring the "Trauma" exhibition last year to Istanbul, and although the United Kingdom is top priority for me, I don't quite know how to pursue this interest especially given the load of work I have to do on a daily basis. So, we are looking forward to offers as well. I am afraid that 2003 will be particularly difficult since the majority of the funds available will be taken by the Istanbul Biennial.

Well, this is just an inquiry to start a conversation regarding near and distant future collaborations.

Warm regards,

Vasif Kortun

Proje4L Istanbul Museum of Contemporary Art

Exhibitions:

"Arne Jacobsen"; 19 June – 10 August 2002
"Stop for a Moment: Painting as Narrative"; 5 April – 15 June 2002
"Women Who Wear Wigs"; Kutlug Ataman; 1 – 28 March 2002
"Look Again"; 21 December 2001 – 23 February 2002
"Becoming a Place"; 21 September – 24 November 2001

Lectures:

Erden Kosova
Jérôme Sans
Francesco Bonami
Ayse Erkmen
"Stop for a Moment: with Curators and Artists"; Mika Hannula, Robert Lucander, Milla Toivanen, Sebnem Soner ve Leyla Gediz
"Video Art: Documentary or Mockumentary"; Vaszf Kortun, Tuna Erdem, Erden Kosova
Dan Cameron
"Oral History / Official History and a Panaroma of Turkey"; Ayse Durakbasa, Nevval Sevindi
"When the Subjects Talk"; Rusen Çakzr, Melek Ulagay, Demet Demir
"Artist and his Viewer"; Kutlug Ataman, Fatih Özgüven
Sener Özmen
Charles Merewether
Chris Dercon
Hans Ulrich Obrist
Charles Esche

Events:

"Vertigo"; Tugçe Tuna; dance performance
"Gift to Oda Project"
"NetArt in Proje4L"
"Resonance, Rythm, Eco, Szfzr+Kör"; music & video performance
Orhan Esen; 24 November 2001

Platform Garanti Contemporary Art Center

Exhibitions:

Gabriel Lester: Gift of Gab
Beyond Adornment
Sitki Kösemen: Blue Sky
Haluk Akakce: Nothing
Nordic Film and Video 2001
Carsten Nicolai: snownoise

Lectures:

Serkan Özkaya
Hale Tenger
Carlos Basualdo
Hou Hanru

Maria Lind
Mika Hannula
Phillipe Vergne