

21th. Apr.1992

Ist. Biennial

~~Galeria Marlborough
Claudio Coello 28,2
Madrid 28001~~

✓ Ezrettli tum galeriye
gandirildi.

Dear Sir or Madam:

As you may already know, the Third International Istanbul Biennial, organized under the auspices of the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and the Arts, will take place between October 16th and November 30th 1992. Sixteen countries will participate in the Biennial in a wide spectrum of formats.

The Third Biennial also bears the special dimension that it will mark the opening of Istanbul's first museum of contemporary art. The space, which architect Gae Aulenti is converting and restoring, is the Feshane, a nineteenth century textile factory.

The Istanbul Biennial has a brief past but it has quickly come of age, and this year's event promises to be of full maturity and bear impact on international art. Its topic is the production of cultural difference, and the participating artists and curators as well as the organizers here are people who are living, working and thinking at the crux of immediate political, theoretical and artistic events which are currently dismantling not only political and geographic boundaries, but also theoretical ones conventionally maintained about cultural identity, the nature of art and a host of related paradigms.

Too, we find that Istanbul is of a significant enough geographic location to be the perfect locus from which to witness, artistically, the current change. Once perceived to be the boundary between the constructs of 'East' and 'West,' it is currently being redefined as the point of passage between 'North' and 'South.' In brief, the special theme of the Biennial emanates not only from currently urgent questions in art and philosophy, but also from the specific location of the Biennial site.

We intend for the Biennial catalog to thoroughly reflect this framework. We also plan on its wide international circulation. And we conceive of this circulation as part of a (belated) manifestation of a critique of Eurocentrism from the margin--as this Biennial's site has traditionally been construed. In other words, as a belated breaking through that Eurocentrism which has remained orientalist and self-absorbed even in its most genuine moments of self-critique.

We would like to include in this year's catalog a section for announcements by highly selected international galleries, arts organizations and journals, reflecting specific directions of artistic choice.

We would appreciate being notified of your decision by May 11th, 1992. The technical features of the announcements are listed below. And please let me know if we may provide any further information about the Biennial and the catalog.

Thanks and regards,

Vasif Kortun
Director
3rd Int'l Istanbul Biennial

FEATURES:

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