

PRESS RELEASE

THE HOUSE THE CAT BUILT RIRKRIT TIRAVANIJA

A Project by Fundación ARQ ART for the Promotion of Art and Architecture and Galería Salvador Díaz.

Exhibition "The house the cat built" Rirkrit Tiravanija

From 13 February to 30 April, 2009. Opening Friday, 13 February at 14.00.

Participating artists:

Thomas Bayrle, Peter Kogler, Jakob Kolding, Gabriel Kuri, Pierre Huyghe, Liam Gillick, Jorge Pardo, Michael Patterson Carver, Tobias Rehberger, Martha Rosler, William Scott, Rirkrit Tiravanija, Shimabuku, Udomsak

Venue: Galería Salvador Díaz.

Lecture series 'How sustainable is sustainability?'

Friday 13 February from 16.00 to 19.00; Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 from 14.30 to 18.00.

Moderator: Martí Perán

Speakers:

Santiago Cirugeda, Colectivo Basurama, Colectivo Ecosistema Urbano, Floov, Nikolaus Hirsch, Andrés Jarque, Kawamura-Ganjavian de Studio Banana, Neil Logan, Makeatuvida, Ernesto Mercado, Tobias Rehberger, Alfred Vernis.

Venue: Galería Salvador Díaz. Entrance free while space is available.

Rirkrit Tiravanija's project "The house the cat built" addresses the concept of the ideal space, inviting us to reflect on sustainable lifestyles in our domestic or daily existence. The project takes in two related activities: the construction in Galería Salvador Díaz of a replica of the artist's house in Chiang Mai, (Thailand) and, inside it, works by 14 artists of international repute, selected by Tiravanija, which are in some way linked to the theme of the project; and the organisation of a series of debates around the topic "How sustainable is sustainability?", to be held inside this purpose-built structure in the Salvador Díaz gallery space.

The lecture series "How sustainable is sustainability?" will be a chance to air new theoretical and practical proposals about the sustainable use of resources, equipment and design, and sustainable social mores. The sessions will unfold around an invitation to lunch, which Tiravanija will prepare for the public throughout the three days the cycle lasts. The topics to be broached during this relaxed exchange of views are:

- sustainability applied to architecture and the design of household objects
- the "Do it yourself" movement as an alternative to industrial production and a way to recover waste materials.
- artists working formally and conceptually in accordance with the principles of social and environmental sustainability.

Rirkrit Tiravanija (Buenos Aires, 1961) has been organising happenings for over a decade. These events seek the active involvement of the public, in the process blurring the boundaries between artist and spectator and between art and everyday activities. His work can be bracketed in the "relational aesthetics" movement. He used the serving of food as art in his first solo show in 1990, where the public had the chance to sample Pad Thai, a typical Thai dish. His works, in their essence, are about the collective, about relationships and chance. He makes art without making objects, and his mission is to condemn possession and accumulation, while championing other ways of life, and thought, remote from the consumerist dynamic.

This project has been possible thanks to the support of:



Other activities:

ARCO09. Galería Salvador Díaz: Pavilion 10, stand G13.
A special car service will be available to take visitors from ARCO09 to Galería Salvador Díaz.
Contact phone: 609 20 60 21.

Opening times: M-F 10-2/4-8 S 11-2.
Special weekend opening ARCO09: 12 to 8
For more information and images: tel. +34 91 527 4000.
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