

P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center

Museum of Modern Art affiliate
22-25 Jackson Ave at 46th Ave
Long Island City, New York 11101
t: 718.784.2084 f: 718.482.9454
www.ps1.org



EXHIBITION PRESS RELEASE
BØRRE SÆTHRE

October 19 through January 26, 2009. Opening Day Celebration: October 19, 12-6PM

(Long Island City, NY — October 15, 2008) P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center presents Norwegian artist Børre Sæthre's highly aestheticized immersive environment which unfolds throughout the third floor Archive Galleries.

Sæthre's work engages and alters the immediate surrounding architecture while guiding visitors through fairy-tale imagery and seamless futuristic design. Each room transports the viewer into otherworldly scenarios in which Sæthre's use of materials divorced from their previous contexts, such as acoustic tiles, and LED lights, function as compositional elements within this totalizing installation. Furtive display devices create glimpses into idiosyncratic worlds inhabited by poised animals, oddly disjoined from the overall décor to create awkward sites for voyeuristic activity. Anachronistically frozen in space, his mythological taxidermy hybrids insinuate elements of surrealism, drawing from an ancient register that collides with futuristic settings. Enigmatic outlines are drawn by the structures of Sæthre's environments (sculptural and reconstructed interiors, light, and soundscapes), but films and photographic tableaux tend to interject more personal narratives. These are often made optional through various cloaking devices, such as semi-transparent glass panels, long corridors, windows that one may uncomfortably peek through, insinuating the complicity of the viewer. Viewers will encounter unlikely temporal juxtapositions, as futurisms of the past collide with Surrealistic images drawn from a mythological register.

Børre Sæthre lives and works in Oslo and New York. He has had solo exhibitions including *From Someone Who Nearly Died But Survived*, Bergen Kunsthall, Bergen, Norway (2007); *I've Been Guilty of Hanging Around*, Participant Inc, NY (2006); *Powered by Zero*, Galerie Loevenbruck, Paris (2005); and *Module for Mood*, Thread Waxing Space, New York, NY (2000). His work has been included in group shows including *Nordic*, Museum Küppersmühle/Sammlung Hans Grothe, Duisburg, Düsseldorf, Germany (2004); *Todos somos pecadores (We are all sinners)*, Museo Rufino Tamayo, Mexico City, Mexico (2002); He is currently a resident at Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris.

Børre Sæthre is organized by P.S.1 Curatorial Advisor Lia Gangitano.

The exhibition is made possible by The Office for Contemporary Art Norway. Additional funding is provided by Arts Council Norway.

P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center

Background:

P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center is one of the largest and oldest organizations in the United States solely devoted to contemporary art. Established in 1976 by Alanna Heiss, P.S.1 originated from The Institute for Art and Urban Resources, a not-for-profit organization founded five years prior with the mission of turning abandoned, underutilized buildings in New York City into artist studios and exhibition spaces. P.S.1 became an affiliate of The Museum of Modern Art in 2000. In 2004, P.S.1 launched the world's first Internet art radio station, Art Radio WPS1.org, which operates out of the historic Clocktower in Lower Manhattan.

Support:

Operations and programs of P.S.1 are supported by the P.S.1 Board of Directors; the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; Helen M. Marshall, Queens Borough President; The Council of the City of New York; and public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency. Additional funding is provided by individuals, foundations, and corporate contributions.

Exhibitions at P.S.1 are made possible by the Annual Exhibition Fund with support from Peter Norton and the Peter Norton Family Foundation, Agnes Gund and Daniel Shapiro, Lawton W. Fitt and James I. McLaren Foundation, Kathy and Richard S. Fuld, Jr., Michel Zaleski, Sydie Lansing, Philip E. and Shelley Fox Aarons, Mimi and Peter Haas Fund, Anna Marie and Robert F. Shapiro, Sheldrake Organization, and David Teiger, with additional funding from Enzo Viscusi, John Comfort, Lewis B. and Dorothy Cullman, E. William Judson, Donald L. Bryant, Dennis W. LaBarre, Clarissa Alcock Bronfman, Ena Swansea, Douglas S. Cramer, Simone Development Companies, Men's Vogue, Barneys New York, John V. Cioffi, Heineken USA, and Susan G. Jacoby in honor of Peter Norton and Gwen Adams.

Time Out New York is the official print partner of exhibitions and public programs at P.S.1.

Directions:

P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center is located at 22-25 Jackson Avenue at 46th Avenue in Long Island City, Queens, across the Queensboro Bridge from midtown Manhattan. It is easily accessible by bus and subway. Traveling by subway, visitors should take either the E or V to 23 Street-Ely Avenue (note that the V does not run on weekends); the 7 to 45 Road-Courthouse Square; or the G to Court Square or 21 Street-Van Alst. Visitors may also take the Q67 bus to Jackson and 46th Avenues or the B61 to Jackson Avenue.

Hours:

P.S.1 is open from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Thursday through Monday. It is closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years Day.

- artbook@PS1 is open from 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Thursday through Sunday.
- LeRosier Café is open from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Thursday through Monday.

Admission:

Admission is a \$5.00 suggested donation; \$2.00 for students and senior citizens; free for MoMA members and MoMA admission ticket holders. The MoMA ticket must be presented at P.S.1 within thirty days of date on ticket and is not valid during Warm Up or other P.S.1 events or benefits.

Web Sites:

www.ps1.org • www.wps1.org • www.moma.org

Contact:

April Hunt, Marketing and Communications Coordinator, april@ps1.org or 718.786.3139

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