

P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center

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EXHIBITION PRESS RELEASE
ON-SITE 2: CHITRA GANESH

October 1, 2009 through April 5, 2010.

Opening Day Celebration: October 25, 2009, 12-6 PM.

(Long Island City, NY — October 5, 2009) P.S.1 presents a large-scale wall installation by the artist Chitra Ganesh, for the second installment of the new series “On-site” which continues P.S.1’s long standing tradition of commissioning site-specific, wall based projects. Ganesh’s new wall piece, *The Silhouette Returns* (2009), is on view in the P.S.1 lobby from October 1, 2009 through April 5, 2010.

Chitra Ganesh creates wall installations, paintings, drawings, photographs, and animations that make use of an expansive visual vocabulary that ranges from Bollywood films, comics and graphic novels, to iconic feminist imagery. For P.S.1’s lobby, she presents *The Silhouette Returns* (2009) which features elements in Sumi and India inks, cut paper, washes of color, and found objects like sequins, plastic fruits, and fake hair. For this installation – her brightest wall piece to date – the artist draws from the aesthetics of glam rock and the kitsch of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* which is evident in the use of glitter and the vivid orange and yellow hues. The piece draws inspiration from the character, The Silhouette, in Alan Moore and David Gibbons’ 1980s graphic novel *Watchmen*. As one of the original superheroes in the comic book series, The Silhouette is discriminated against and ultimately murdered for coming out as a lesbian.

As a whole, the work suggests links between myth, ritual, and high and low culture as well as connections between countries and continents. Like in past installations, she seeks to excavate and circulate buried narratives typically excluded from the official canon.

Chitra Ganesh (b. 1975 Brooklyn, New York) currently lives and works in Brooklyn. Ganesh’s work has been exhibited widely at venues including the Brooklyn Museum, the Queens Museum of Art, the Asia Society, Bronx Museum of Art, Exit Art, White Columns, Momenta Art, and Apex Art in New York. International venues include the Gawngju Art Museum, Korea; Fondazione Sandretto, Italy; Nature Morte, New Dehli; Montehermoso Center, Spain; ZKM, Germany; and the Royal College of Art, London.

On-site 2: Chitra Ganesh is organized by Klaus Biesenbach, P.S.1 Chief Curatorial Advisor and MoMA Chief Curator of Media and Performance Art; Christopher Y. Lew, P.S.1 Manager of Curatorial Affairs; Tim Goossens and Kate McNamara, P.S.1 Curatorial Assistants.

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.

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 the P.S.1 Annual Fund, Annual Exhibition Fund, Business Circle, and The Student Body. The P.S.1 Annual Fund is supported by Carnegie Corporation of New York, The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, David Teiger, Union Beer Distributors, The Cowles Charitable Trust, Dorothy Lichtenstein, Galerie Lelong, E. William Judson, Jane K. Lombard, Samuel I. Newhouse Foundation, Inc., Barbara Gladstone, Mathis Pfohl Foundation, The Herman Liebmann Foundation, Bobby Kopp + Co. Productions, and other donors.

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P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center's institutional archives were established with generous founding support from the Leon Levy Foundation.

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.moma.org

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