

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
FLORIAN SLOTAWA

February 22 through September 14, 2009.
Opening Day Celebration: February 22, 2009, 12-6 PM.

(Long Island City, NY — February 9, 2009) P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center presents the first solo New York exhibition of work by Berlin-based conceptual artist Florian Slotawa. Rather than creating new objects from scratch, Florian Slotawa rearranges and recontextualizes what already exists. In his artworks Slotawa assembles and arranges furniture and everyday objects in elaborate compositions that respond to the rooms and spaces in which they are presented.

In his exhibition at P.S.1's First Floor Corner Gallery, Slotawa creates the twelfth in a series of works he began in 1996, called *Besitzarbeiten*, or "property works." Most of the contents from his Berlin apartment, including his washing machine, dining table, wardrobe and kitchen sink, have been transported into the gallery, leaving the apartment absent of key appliances and furniture. Within the exhibition these personal objects are recast within the public realm, as they provide the material for a work of art. Slotawa adds new dimensions to familiar objects, creating a relationship between the artist and the institution of the museum. These possessions are neither altered or damaged, and will be returned to their original location for everyday use after the exhibition.

Florian Slotawa (b. 1972, Rosenheim, Germany) lives and works in Berlin. He has had solo exhibitions including *Solothurn aussen*, Kunstverein Solothurn, Switzerland (2008); *One After the Other* Arthouse, Austin (2007); Modern Art, London (2006); and Haus am Waldsee, Berlin (2005). His work has been included in group shows including *Made in Germany* (2007) at the Sprengel Museum in Hannover; and *Of Mice and Men: The 4th Biennial for Contemporary Art* (2006) in Berlin.

Organized by Susanne Pfeffer, Curator at KW Institute for Contemporary Art and P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center Curatorial Advisor.

The exhibition is supported by Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen e.V., Stuttgart.

Additional support is provided by The Contemporary Arts Council of The Museum of Modern Art.

International and national projects are supported in part by the P.S.1 Student Body.

Also on view: *Yael Bartana* through May 4, 2009 and *Leandro Erlich: Swimming Pool* through October 2009.

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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 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 Sheldrake Organization, The International Council of The Museum of Modern Art in honor of Alanna Heiss, Agnes Gund, Lawton W. Fitt and James I. McLaren Foundation, Kathy and Richard S. Fuld, Jr., Marie-Josée and Henry Kravis, Peter Norton and the Peter Norton Family Foundation, Anna Marie and Robert F. Shapiro, Michel Zaleski, Sydnie Lansing, Philip E. Aarons and Shelley Fox Aarons, Mimi and Peter Haas Fund, and David Teiger, with additional funding from Emilio Ambasz, John Comfort, Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, Lewis B. and Dorothy Cullman, Donald L. Byrant, Jr., Susan G. Jacoby, Clarissa Alcock Bronfman, Dennis W. LaBarre, Ena Swansea, E. William Judson, *Men's Vogue*, Sarah-Ann and Werner H. Kramarsky, A NY Thing, LLC, Louise Bourgeois Trust, John V. Cioffi, Enzo Viscusi, and Douglas S. Cramer.

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.psl.org • www.moma.org

Contact:

April Hunt, Press Officer, april@ps1.org or 718.786.3139

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