



CENTER FOR NUTIDSKUNST
CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

ÅRHUS KUNSTBYGNING

J. M. MØRKS GADE 13 · DK-8000 ÅRHUS C

Perform History II

A one-day exhibition organized by the U-TURN Quadrennial for Contemporary Art in collaboration with the Aarhus Art Building

November 2, 2008, 16:00-20:00, at the Aarhus Art Building

With the one-day exhibition *Perform History II* the Aarhus Art Building hosts a satellite of the exhibition project U-TURN – Denmark's first international Quadrennial for Contemporary Art. *Perform History II* includes performances by a number of dynamic young artists as well as internationally renowned artists like Adam Pendleton, who this year performed at Manifesta and in 2007 at Performa in New York. Earlier this year Complaints Choir and Lilibeth Cuenca performed with large success at U-TURN in Copenhagen.

The program consists of a varied selection of live performances and film showings:

16.00: Welcome by exhibition coordinator Pernille Lyngsø, introduction to the one-day exhibition by curator Solvej Helweg Ovesen and a pictorial presentation by Daniel Knorr (ROM), *Stolen History*, 2008

16.30: Performance by the Danish Complaints Choir – concept by Tellervo Kalleinen & Oliver Kockta Kalleinen (FIN/GER), arrangement by the composer Esben Bladbjerg (DK)

17.00: Performance ved Adam Pendleton (USA), *Black Dada*, 2008

17.30: Soup

18.00: Re-enactments ved Lilibeth Cuenca (DK), *Never Mind Pollock (Woman on Painting)*, 2008

19.00: Film screening by the artists group Chto delat / What's to be Done? (RUS) *Perestrojka SongSpiel, Victory over the coup*, 2008

19.30: Surprise

Exhibition Details:

Admission: Reduced admission for all: D. kr. 25,- for the whole event. It's recommended that the visitors participate in the whole one-day exhibition, but it's also possible to come for just one performance. Soup can be bought for D. Kr. 20,-. U-TURN catalogue: D. kr. 200,-.

'Performing' or bringing history to life means revitalizing history and our interpretation of it by means of this active medium. The one-day exhibition *Perform History II* provides a framework for a series of performances and film showings succeeding one another in a temporary staging at the Aarhus Art Building. Where normally an exhibition is defined by space, *Perform History II* takes its starting point in time and thus comes to stand as an invitation, where the artists, the visitors and the exhibition team can experience the building of an exhibition together and see how it will take shape and be realized in the course of a single afternoon and evening. As the exhibition and the day progress, guides from the Aarhus Art Building and U-TURN will lead the visitors from work to work, and in this way four hours spent at the Art Building will be transformed into a framework for a series of mutual experiences bringing history to life.

U-TURN mainly focuses on works that contain substantial performative qualities and create a special relation to history. For this reason only artists who create their works on a background of historic development have been invited to take part in the program. As a continuation of U-TURN's first arrangement, *Perform History* at "Overgaden, Institute of Contemporary Art" in Copenhagen in January 2008, the one-day exhibition *Perform History II* at the Aarhus Art Building stands as a concluding session. Among other things it will examine how and why contemporary art seizes history. In an introductory presentation Solvej Helweg Ovesen, one of the three founders and artistic leaders of U-TURN, will discuss why it's an urgent necessity to activate the historic awareness in Denmark.

Facts about U-TURN Quadrennial for Contemporary Art

U-TURN Quadrennial for Contemporary Art is the first international festival of contemporary art to be held in Denmark. The exhibition presents a large and varied selection of works by both promising young artists and renowned artists from a number of countries presenting a mixture of performances, public interventions and exhibitions at several locations in Copenhagen. For the first time ever the tap factory at Carlsberg's former

brewery in Valby, Tap E, and the Academy Garden will be open to the public and will present the framework for the main exhibit in connection with the quadrennial. In the city of Copenhagen, Nikolaj Copenhagen Contemporary Art Center will serve as the second exhibition space. But the exhibition continues outside in the streets, squares, walls and the port of Copenhagen with a total of twelve public art projects. Moreover several other art projects have been realized in collaboration with institutions such as Camp X, Cinemateket, Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek, Takkelloftet (The Opera), Stege Sugar Factory and the Aarhus Art Building.

The focal point for the whole quadrennial is the notion of a U-turn as movement and a radical change of direction. U-TURN is not about returning to origins, but about moving in new directions and seeking out situations where something new can happen. U-TURN is a turning point for contemporary art in Denmark. During the course of the 70-day exhibition the public will be introduced to the works of more than 70 artists, most of whom have never exhibited in Denmark before. U-TURN's (art)historical ambition is to present relevant contemporary art within an institutional setting - with references to movements like Fluxus, Situationism and Dadaism, while at the same time revitalizing these movements. For more information, please go to: www.uturn-copenhagen.dk.

U-TURN is curated by Charlotte Bagger Brandt, Solvej Helweg Ovesen and Judith Schwarzbart, who in 2006 won a competition initiated by the Danish Arts Council for the establishment of a festival for contemporary art.

Exhibition period:	September 5 – November 9, 2008
Number of participating artists:	64
Area:	More than 5,000 sq/m
Public space:	The Town Hall Square (Rådhuspladsen), Sønder Boulevard, the Port of Copenhagen – plus a number of squares in the city of Copenhagen
Partners:	Carlsberg Tap E, Nikolaj - Copenhagen Contemporary Art Center, Cinemateket, Camp X and Takkelloftet (The Royal Theatre), Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek, SUK and the Aarhus Art Building
Main sponsors:	The Danish Arts Council, Mfonden, the City of Copenhagen and Carlsberg, EU CULTURE
Curators:	Judith Schwarzbart, Solvej Helweg Ovesen and Charlotte Bagger Brandt
Assistant curators, Perform History II: Press, U-TURN:	Tijana Miscovic og Helga Just Christoffersen Anders Lichinger, anders@uturn-copenhagen.dk / +45 21371108 Anne Riber, anne@uturn-copenhagen.dk / +45 40 89 42 24
PR, Aarhus Art Building:	Anne Fogtmann Madsen, af@aarhuskb.dk / +45 86 20 60 55