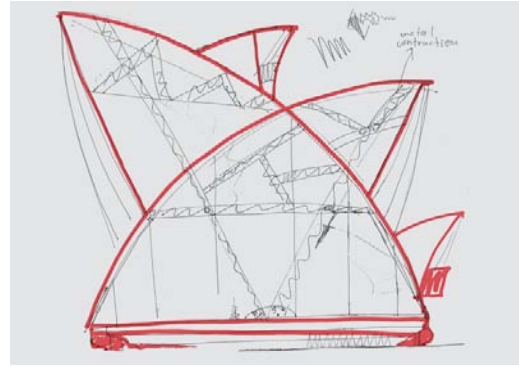


# THE SHOW ROOM

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**PRESS RELEASE: 09.08.11**

**EI ARAKAWA, GELA PATASHURI, SERGEI TCHEREPNIN:**

**BE A SPEAKER. SO BE IT...**

**3 September 2011, 7-8pm: Preview and performance**

**7 and 14 September, 12-6pm: Installation with performance from 3-4pm**

**Further performances by appointment.**

New York-based artists **Ei Arakawa** and **Sergei Tcherepnin**, and Tbilisi-based artist **Gela Patashuri** are collaborating on a human-size 'speaker' structure that will be assembled in The Showroom's exhibition space. This 'sound room' will function both as a loudspeaker and a music studio - housing objects and materials ready for an ensemble to play a specific score. The ensemble will comprise Showroom staff and members of the gallery's local community, trained by the artists for performances on 3, 7 and 14 September.

**Be a speaker. So be it...** evolved out of work that the group have been doing towards the establishment of a new contemporary art centre in Tbilisi. Plans for this are so far imaginary, inspiring the group to devise a music festival in 2009 and develop the project *Hurt Locker Instruments* at Casco, Utrecht, in 2010, as part of the project *Circular Facts*. The installation at The Showroom will incorporate a 3D drawing and a slide show of plans for the Tbilisi Center for Contemporary Art, both based on drawings by **Gela Patashuri**.

For further information and images please contact Kate Stancliffe on 020 7724 4300 or [kate@theshowroom.org](mailto:kate@theshowroom.org)

**Notes to editors:**

**Ei Arakawa** was born in 1977 in Japan, **Sergei Tcherepnin** in 1981 in the USA, and **Gela Patashuri** in Georgia in 1973. They have been working collaboratively since 2008 on projects at Casco, Utrecht (2010), New Jersey, Basel (2009) and in Tbilisi (2008, 2009). **Arakawa's** solo projects include Galerie Neu, Berlin (2010), Kunsthalle Zurich and Sculpture Center New York (both 2009); **Tcherepnin** has performed his musical improvisations in numerous New York venues and his compositions are performed internationally; **Patashuri** has curated and participated in group exhibitions in Georgia, most recently in Shindisi.

**Be a speaker. So be it...** is supported by the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation and the Japan Foundation, and has been commissioned in the framework of *Circular Facts*, a cooperative circuit for itinerant research and projects by artists initiated by Casco, Office for Art, Design and Theory, Utrecht, Objectif Exhibitions, Antwerp, and The Showroom in collaboration with Kunst Halle Sankt Gallen and Electric Palm Tree, financially supported by the European Commission. The project will travel to France, to Bétonsalon in Paris and CAC Bretigny. The Showroom is supported by Arts Council England and members of the gallery's Supporters Scheme.

Image credit: *Hurt Locker Instruments*, a drawing by Gela Patashuri, 2010, Image: Julia Born & Laurenz Brunner