

PRESS RELEASE

**GLOBAL VISION : New Art from the 90's**  
**Part II**

*featuring new acquisitions from the Dakis Joannou Collection*

8 July – 7 November 1998

MONTIEN BOONMA (Thailand)  
CAI GUO QIANG (China)  
JOHAN GRIMONPREZ (Belgium)  
SHAHZIA SIKANDER (Pakistan)  
NARI WARD (USA/Jamaica)  
CHEN ZHEN (China)

The second part of the exhibition *Global Vision: New Art from the 90's*, continues to explore questions of globalisation, trans-nationalism, multi-culturalism, and fragmentary diasporic identities. The exhibition will feature a number of impressive, large scale installation works, shown for the first time in Greece, such as **Montien Boonma's** *House of Hope*, a shrine-like structure made out of 1668 strands of hanging herbal beads; **Cai Guo Qiang's** dramatic hanging tower made out of the remains of a shipwreck *The Dragon Has Arrived*, exhibited at last year's Venice Biennale; **Chen Zhen's** *Daily Incantations*, a dominating structure comprised of Chinese chamber pots and obsolete electronic equipment. **Nari Ward** will take over the project space and recreate *Hunger Cradle* a psychologically charged installation made with yarn and discarded objects that literally engulfs the viewer. In her painstakingly crafted mural *Veil 'n' Trail* **Shahzia Sikander** draws on her knowledge of Indian and Pakistani miniatures to examine issues about female identity, orientalism, and cultural stereotyping. What counts in these works is the experience of a *situation* rather than an object, which demands the viewer's interaction.

**Johan Grimonprez'** film *dial H-I-S-T-O-R-Y*, which caused a stir at last year's Documenta X will be screened in the video projection room. The film is a 70's style satirical chronicle of the history of worldwide airplane hijackings, based on a mixture of archival footage, personal home movie imagery, and airline safety films. It explores media politics and the fascination for catastrophe culture, while questioning the role of the artist in society today.

The artists in *Global Vision* acknowledge the diversity of the global while at the same time affirming the importance of the local, to explore the dissonances that underly the new global reality.

The exhibition is curated by **Katerina Gregos**, Director of the Deste Foundation and Curator of the Dakis Joannou Collection, and will run until the 7<sup>th</sup> November 1998.

For more information please contact **Natasha Polymeropoulos** at the Deste Foundation.

*Co-ordination:*        *Maria Panagides & Associates*  
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Duration of exhibition: 8 July – 7 November 1998

Opening Hours:        Monday – Friday: 11:00 am – 12:00 midnight  
                                  Saturday: 12:00 – 4:00 pm & 9:00 pm – 12:00 midnight  
                                  Closed Sundays

## **ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHIES**

### CAI GUO QIANG

Born 1957 Quanzhou City, Fujian Province, China

Cai is known for installations and large-scale performance projects using traditional Chinese materials and ideas, such as gunpowder, medicine, and divination.

He studied at the Shanghai Drama Institute.

Although much of his work is site-specific, he has exhibited at the Setagaya Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan & the Iwaki City Art Museum, Fukushima, Japan (1994); the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Denmark (1997); the Queens Museum of Art, New York (1997)

### JOHAN GRIMONPREZ

Born 1962, Roeslare, Belgium

Grimonprez' film work is concerned with the age of multimedia and acknowledges the inevitable mediation of reality and history.

Studied video and mixed media at the Jan Van Eyck Akademie, Maastricht; the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program; the School of Visual Arts, New York, and the Akademie voor Schone Kunsten, Gent. His work has been shown at the Vereniging Museum Hedendaagse Kunst, Gent (1994) the Centre Pompidou, Paris (1997); Documenta X, Kassel (1997); Deitch Projects, New York (1997)

### SHAHZIA SIKANDER

Sikander has developed the tradition of miniature painting into a structure to explore her own contemporary artistic identity. Her work weaves together memory, history, fantasy, mythology to explore her personal identity and broader cultural identity.

### NARI WARD

Creates psychologically charged installations out of everyday urban debris, rendering both the social and spiritual aspects of his personal experience.

His work has been shown at the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York (1993); Le Magasin Centre d'Art Contemporain, Grenoble (1994); Harlem Firehouse, New York (1995); Deitch Projects, New York (1996); PS1 Museum, New York (1997)

Awards:

## CHEN ZHEN

Born 1955, Shanghai, China

Chen Zhen is known for various installations that show a critical view of modern society and our living environment.

He studied at the Shanghai School of Fine Arts, the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts, Paris, and the Institut des Hautes Etudes en Arts Plastiques, Paris. His work has been shown at *Le Magasin* in Grenoble (1992); the Centraal Museum Utrecht, Holland (1993); the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York (1994); Galerie Ghislaine Hussenot, Paris, and Jean Bernier Gallery, Athens (1995) Deitch Projects, New York, and the Centre International d'Art Contemporain, Montreal (1996); Centre for Contemporary Art, Kitakyushu, Japan (1997). In 1997 he received the Kwanju Biennale Award.