

Press Release

A GUEST + A HOST = A GHOST **Works from the Dakis Joannou Collection**

7 May – 31 December 2009



The exhibition *A Guest + A Host = A Ghost* marks a new display of the Dakis Joannou Collection at the DESTE Foundation. In what has become a yearly tradition, Dakis Joannou with the collaboration of artists, curators and friends – presents his collection in a new configuration.

Borrowing its title from one of Marcel Duchamp's aphorisms, *A Guest + A Host = A Ghost* is constructed as a series of solo exhibitions, many of which have been conceived and installed by the participating artists themselves. A comprehensive presentation of some of the artists that Dakis Joannou has been collecting in depth over the past few years, *A Guest + A Host = A Ghost* showcases ambitious works, signature pieces, and new productions by: Pawel Althamer, Maurizio Cattelan, Paul Chan, Nathalie Djurberg, Marcel Duchamp, Urs Fischer, Robert Gober, Jeff Koons, Paul McCarthy, Seth Price, Gregor Schneider, Kiki Smith, Kara Walker, Andro Wekua, and Franz West.

In a series of symbiotic encounters and parasitic relationships, the solo presentations are often interrupted by incongruous presences or perturbed by unusual juxtapositions: drawings by Kara Walker surround a tomb by Urs Fischer; Maurizio Cattelan's homeless man kneels down in front of Kiki Smith's *Bat Woman*; Robert Gober's haunted rooms incorporate Gregor Schneider's architectural fragments; Seth Price's vacuum figures face off a work by Jeff Koons. Each artwork turns into the ghostly reflection of its neighbor, making it impossible to distinguish hosts from guests, friendly creatures from menacing shadows.

The exhibition is organized by the DESTE Foundation with Massimiliano Gioni as curatorial advisor.

The installation is designed by Massimiliano Gioni and Dakis Joannou with the participation of Maurizio Cattelan, Urs Fischer and Cecilia Alemani.

A catalogue designed and produced by American artist Josh Smith accompanies the exhibition and expands the show by introducing a new interpretation of the collection in book form – another guest, another ghost.

Opening hours:

Thursday: 12:00 – 20:00

Saturday: 12:00 – 17:00

The entrance to the exhibition is free

Guided Tours:

The program of guided tours for the exhibition *A Guest + A Host = A Ghost* is as follows:

Thursday: 13:00 – 14:00 & 17:00 – 18:00

Saturday: 13:00 – 14:00 & 15:00 – 16:00

Schools and/or other large groups which may be interested in arranging a guided tour outside the programmed ones should please contact DESTE on tel.: +302102758490 or email: info@deste.gr

The guided tours and presentations are conducted by trained DESTE personnel and are free of charge.

For additional information please contact the DESTE Foundation:

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