

**For immediate release**

**DAVID ADJAYE AND OLAFUR ELIASSON: A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT IN LOPUD, CROATIA**

**Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary Art Pavilion will travel to the Island of Lopud, accompanied by a symposium and debate sessions**

**Your black horizon**, a remarkable light installation by Danish-Icelandic artist **Olafur Eliasson**, was commissioned by Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary and inaugurated to great critical acclaim in June 2005 as an official project at the 51st Venice Biennale of Visual Arts. London-based architect **David Adjaye** was engaged to work in close collaboration with Eliasson and to conceive an environment in which art and architecture were from the outset considered as one, "an interlocking equation". Artist and architect shared the same, metaphorical, studio to engage to one another and to respond to the site specified for the pavilion. It is this relationship, one of engagement and response, and a constant revision of prescribed boundaries between disciplines, that Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary aspires to encourage on a broad and courageous scale.

The **Art Pavilion** is traveling to the island of Lopud, Croatia - just a few sea miles away from the UNESCO world heritage city of Dubrovnik. This distinctive location allows the artist and architect to test the conceptual nature of the project: to develop art and the spaces for art with respect for the site they inhabit. Embedded in an historic context, Lopud's rich Renaissance heritage and lively tourist development, the pavilion is a model for art destination travel and contemporary interventions. The challenge is to make a portable and temporary museum which sits comfortably in its surrounding natural site.

**Your black horizon** is indicative of Olafur Eliasson's interest in the phenomenon of light, color, geometry, perception, movement, and space. From light-filled environments to walk-in kaleidoscopes, Eliasson's participatory art engages the viewer in a situation of perception and a fresh reconsideration of everyday phenomena, as demonstrated by the "Weather Project", which attracted over one million visitors to the Tate Modern in London for the duration of the exhibition. In the **Art Pavilion**, a thin horizontal line directed through a narrow gap at eye level serves as the primary light source. The line runs around the black space, uninterrupted by any visual obstruction. This is the line that separates heaven and earth, a light in constant motion, changing color and rotating every few minutes through a cyclical spectrum calibrated to the specific light conditions of Lopud recorded in the course of a single day, from sunrise to sunset.

## **Patronage of Space**

### **Symposium in Dubrovnik's Lazareti with internationally acclaimed artists and architects**

To take Dubrovnik as the location for a conference on the contemporary relationship of art and architecture is a deliberate and symbolic choice. Fifty years ago, Dubrovnik hosted a conference that marked one of the most decisive paradigm shifts in the architectural history of modernism, namely the 10th meeting of CIAM (Congrès Internationaux d'Architecture Moderne) in 1956 (which was also its last). The CIAM was founded in 1928 to unite the most progressive architects of its time in an international think-tank that was to propel the destiny of the modern movement. It was the forum where architectural modernism stated its ideals and manifestos on how the modern city should be built.

At the 10th meeting of CIAM in Dubrovnik in 1956, a group of critics made their doubts unmistakably explicit. They accused the old guard of ignoring the damage done by their urban vision and declared their secession of CIAM which effectively broke down thereafter. Out of the ashes of CIAM X arose Team X, led by its most vocal protagonists. Together they drew up a new agenda for modern urbanism that was to cover all the blind spots CIAM had left behind: introducing human and social sciences in design, exploring concepts such as culture, history and regional difference; seeking participation of users in the design process; parting from modernist ethos of simplicity and reductivity while embracing concepts of complexity and contradiction, and, notion last but not least, rejecting the notion of international style. Team X was the first architectural movement that criticized the fatal implications of heroic modernism's dogmatic quest for the new and revolution as the only way of development.

The symposium composed of acclaimed practitioners, such as **David Adjaye** and **François Roche**, theoreticians, **Mark Wigley**, **Andreas Ruby** and **Beatriz Colomina** and preservation experts, **Jorge Otero-Pailos**, and **Dinko Peračić** will publically explore in the morning the larger scheme of the Art Pavilions and contemporary positions in remote locations; and in an afternoon session elaborate the idea of a "patronage over space" which bridges contemporary and historical space, by being infused by simultaneous concerns for historical continuity, sustainability, and at the same time taking a meaningful role in the present.

The **Your black horizon Art Pavilion** represents the pilot project for a more ambitious vision of several larger and more permanent structures that Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary intends to establish as part of a new and unique approach to the presentation of contemporary art. Within the next few years, and in collaboration with local partners, the foundation intends to place a number of pavilions in carefully selected locations around the world. Artworks, specially commissioned from emerging and established international artists, will rotate around these global locations to create a new and constantly regenerating network of contemporary art.

The extraordinary natural beauty of each individual site, a diverse and outstanding program of commissioned, site-specific works of art, and the buildings' design, combining low environmental impact with high sustainability, will intensify and redefine the experience of looking at art. In doing so, this venture serves as a trigger for the creation of new centers of contemporary art in often remote locations, and as a catalyst for local art scenes.

## DETAILS

**Olafur Eliasson and David Adjaye**  
**Your black horizon Art Pavilion**  
**Lopud Island, Croatia**

June 20 – October 31, 2007  
Opening hours: daily, 2 pm - 9 pm  
Entrance free

### **Symposium “Patronage of Space”**

**Date:** Wednesday 20th of June, 2007  
**Location:** Lazareti, Dubrovnik, Croatia

**Moderator:** Andreas Ruby, Architectural critic and theorist, textbild, Berlin

**Speakers:** **Symposium I**  
**Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Pavilions**  
11 am – 1 pm  
Francesca von Habsburg, Chairman, Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary, Vienna  
Olafur Eliasson, Artist, Berlin  
David Adjaye, Architect, Adjaye/Associates, London  
Matthew Ritchie, Artist, New York  
Mark Wigley, Dean of Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation,  
Columbia University, New York  
Crist Inman, Visiting Lecturer of Management and Organizations, Cornell University,  
Ithaca, New York

### **Symposium II** **Current Practices, breaking with tradition, again...**

2 pm – 4 pm  
Beatriz Colomina, Professor of Architecture and Director of the PhD Program,  
Princeton University, New Jersey  
Hans Ulrich Obrist, Co-Director for Exhibitions, Serpentine Gallery, London  
Jorge Otero-Pailos, Assistant Professor of Historic Preservation, Columbia University,  
New York  
Dinko Peračić, Architect, Platforma 981, Split  
François Roche, Architect, R&S(e)n, Paris

Transfer to the Island of Lopud after the symposium will be provided.  
For more details please contact [pavilion@tba21-croatia.org](mailto:pavilion@tba21-croatia.org)

**OPENING of Your black horizon Art Pavilion by Olafur Eliasson and David Adjaye**

**Date:** Wednesday 20th of June, 2007 at 6 pm

**Location:** Lopud Island, Croatia

Art Pavilion Opening and opening reception with David Adjaye, Architect, London; Olafur Eliasson, Artist, Berlin; Francesca von Habsburg, Chairman, Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary, Vienna

Late night sound performance **UPIC Diffusion Session #12** by **Florian Hecker** and **Russell Haswell** in the Renaissance Fortress.

**Date:** Wednesday 20th of June, 2007 at 10 pm

**Location:** Lopud Island, Croatia  
Renaissance Fortress

**Russell Haswell and Florian Hecker**  
**UPIC Diffusion Session # 12**

Multi Channel Sound- and Laser performance based on Iannis Xenakis' UPIC sound system

"Anybody, even myself or you, or children, can draw lines or graphics with an electromagnetic ballpoint, and they are transformed by computer directly into sound..." Iannis Xenakis about UPIC

**UPIC Diffusion Session # 12**, a project by the artists and musicians **Russell Haswell** and **Florian Hecker**, utilizes material generated during their residency at CCMIX (Centre for Composition of Music Iannis Xenakis) in Paris, using the UPIC system of sound synthesis developed by Iannis Xenakis. The system, which is made of a drawing tablet in the size of a large sheet of paper, allows the user to 'draw' a sound composition: the lines drawn with an electronic pen are directly translated into sound.

Haswell and Hecker will create a diffusion of a composition arranged for the specific situation located at the courtyard of the Renaissance Fortress on the Island of Lopud. They will construct an immaterial space, superimposed to the existing architecture and create a synaesthetic environment in which site, body, architecture and space merge.

Under the official patronage of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia and City of Dubrovnik, with kind support of Lopud town council

**Information**

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