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ART FORUM BERLIN 2003: Consolidation successfully completed

Berlin (ots) -

The International fair for Contemporary Art

Fair Dates: October 1 - 5, 2003

Vernissage: September 30, 2003

www.art-forum-berlin.com

Consolidation successfully completed: ART FORUM BERLIN 2003 to be presented in the classic central halls 18 to 20 at the Berlin Fairgrounds with 94 international galleries in an ambience between Kunsthalle and fair.

In February, 2003 an internationally composed jury of curators and gallery owners successfully carried out the consolidated selection of 94 international galleries for participation in ART FORUM BERLIN 2003. This concentrated selection followed upon the advice of the ART FORUM BERLIN International Galleries Advisory Board and with the support of the Messe Berlin. The 94 chosen galleries - of which 13 were selected to compose innovative presentations in "Freestyle Spaces" - hail from Western and Central Europe, North and South America and from the Near East and Australia, and show exciting works at the pulse of the moment: fresh, brave and full of quality.

The eighth edition of ART FORUM BERLIN securely maintains its position as an international fair dedicated exclusively to contemporary art within a seriously contested market. Opening the autumn season 2003, a concentrated and qualitative selection of galleries from 22 countries will be present in Berlin. 55% of the exhibitors come from countries other than Germany, substantiating the unbroken interest in Berlin as a significant location for contemporary art. As in previous years, the balance of return exhibitors (most prominent returning gallery: Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris/Salzburg) to new participants (among them, Anna Schwartz Gallery, Melbourne) remains steady. In 2003, 74 % of the exhibitors will be returning after previous participation while 26% will be participating for a first time. Also remaining continuous are the numbers of German exhibitors. Of the total 43 German galleries 24 come from Berlin (i.e. 25% of all participants from Berlin, as in the previous year); traditionally well represented are exhibitors from the Nordic Countries (12), while 13 exhibitors are from overseas.

For the first time situated in its long-desired location, the historically protected halls 18 to 20 at the Berlin Fairgrounds, the eighth ART FORUM BERLIN maintains its customary conceptual profile. The alphabetical layout remains, a hallmark of ART FORUM BERLIN, as do the 3,5 meter-high walls and the individual stand designs.

The annually changing international Admission's Committee this year consisted of: Patricia Asbaek (Galerie Asbaek, Copenhagen), Georg Kargl (Galerie Georg Kargl, Vienna), Frank Lehmann (Galerie Gebrüder Lehmann, Leipzig) and Thomas Schulte (Galerie Thomas Schulte, Berlin) as well as curators Marcella Beccaria (Castello di Rivoli, Turin) and Ulrike Groos (Director of the Kunsthalle Düsseldorf). The meeting was chaired by Christian Nagel (Galerie Christian Nagel, Cologne/Berlin) as representative of the International Galleries Advisory Board of ART FORUM BERLIN.

Parallel to ART FORUM BERLIN, the central event of kunstherbst berlin 2003, the capital will also offer numerous exciting exhibitions, among them: Berlin - Moscow/Moscow - Berlin at Martin-Gropius-Bau, Tom Sachs: Nutsy's at the Deutsche Guggenheim Berlin and Private/Corporate II: A Dialogue of Two Contemporary Collections Ileana Sonnabend, New York and DaimlerChrysler at Daimler/Chrysler

Contemporary. The autumn season is further supplemented by Face Up , an exhibition of contemporary art from Australia as well as solo exhibitions by Ron Mueck and Dayanita Singh, Inside India, at the Hamburger Bahnhof. Kunst-Werke e.V. completes this wide selection with a solo show by Sue de Beer, Hans und Grete, an exhibition of fashion photography by Terry Richardson under the title Too Much and the exhibition The Innocents by Taryn Simon.

Fair Dates:

October 1st through 4th, 2003 from 12 p.m. (noon) - 8 p.m.
October 5th, 2003 from 12 p.m. (noon) - 6 p.m.
Professional Preview September 30, 2 - 4 p.m.
Vernissage September 30, 4 - 9 p.m.
Press Conference September 30, 11.30 a.m., hall 19, Palais am Funkturm

Fair Location Berlin Exhibition Grounds/Messe Berlin, halls 18-20, Masurenallee

Admission

Full-day Ticket:	EUR 13,00
Reduced (students etc.):	EUR 9,00
Groups (> 5 persons)	EUR 9,00
Evening Ticket (after 5 p.m.)	EUR 9,00
Vernissage (for 2 persons)	EUR 40,00

Guided Tours

Daily at 2, 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. by art:berlin; Price 6 EUR, reduced 3 EUR,
Reservation for groups and information: art:berlin
Tel.: +49-30-28 09 63-90 / Fax: +49-30-28 09 63-91
Hotline: +49-30-22 00 25 E-mail: info@artberlin-online.de
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