

Press release:

Lost and Found

Curated by:

René Block

May 23 - June 23, 2001

Opening reception: Wednesday, May 23, 6-8 pm

George Brecht
Stanley Brouwn
Marcel Broodthaers
Henning Christiansen
Maria Eichhorn
Romuald Hazoumé
Gülsün Karamustafa
Alison Knowles
Kim Sooja
Serge Spitzer

"Visiting friends in Sydney last autumn, I went to buy a bottle of wine. While looking for the different types, a bottle with the label "The Lost Block" got my attention. I took this bottle home to Berlin and placed it - by chance - near an artwork of Marcel Broodthaers, showing a bottle with *The Manuscript* printed on it, a work which is based on the novel *The Manuscript Found in a Bottle* by Edgar Allen Poe. I saw 'Lost and Found' together for the first time. Since the Readymade of Marcel Duchamp *object trouvés* have been an important issue in modern and contemporary art. But what about the things lost? This exhibition will tell us in a few extraordinary examples about losing and finding," says René Block, the well known European curator.

For *Lost and Found*, Block has chosen works from 10 artists, different by generation and different by geography. The variety of work on display is wide ranging: a video by Kim Sooja of people walking on a main street in Istanbul, a Stanley Brouwn work from the 60s in which passersby made drawings for him to find his way, and found-object works by African artist Romuald Hazoumé and American artist Alison Knowles. Henning Christiansen will exhibit a work that shows that freedom is hard to even impossible to find and a work by Gülsün Karamustafa refers to refugees who loose their homes and have to find new ones. Among new work created for the exhibition will be a silver ring by Maria Eichhorn, which will be lost before the opening.

René Block is known to the New York audience by his gallery on West Broadway (1974-77), which was opened by the coyote-performance of Joseph Beuys in May 1974. Among the many exhibitions that Block has curated since are the Biennials of Sydney (1990), Istanbul (1995) and Kwangju (2000, Eurafrika section). Since 1998 Block has been responsible for the exhibition program of the Kunsthalle Fridericianum in Kassel, Germany.

A color brochure containing an essay by René Block will be available free of charge. Please contact Apex Art for further information.

Hours are Tuesday to Saturday, 11-6.



Kim Sooja *Sewing into Walking*, 1997



Alison Knowles *Dark Triptych*, 2001



Serge Spitzer *Deadlock/Deadlock*, 1986

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