

PRESS RELEASE

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Museum Show Part 1

24 Sep - 19 Nov 2011

Including:

Museum of Contemporary African Art (**Meschac Gaba**), *La Boîte-en-valise* (**Marcel Duchamp**), *Museo Aero Solar*, *Museum of Conceptual Art* (**Tom Marioni**), *La Galerie Légitime* (**Robert Filliou**), *Schubladenmuseum/Museum of Drawers* (**Herbert Distel**), *Museum of Safety Gear for Small Animals* (**Bill Burns**), *Davis Lisboa Mini-Museum* (**Davis Lisboa**), *Museum of Projective Personality Testing* (**Sina Najafi & Christopher Turner**), *Museum of Revolution* (**Marko Lulic**), *Intuitive Galerie* (**Francois Curlet**), *Moon Museum* (**Forrest Myers**), *Musée d'Art Moderne, Département des Aigles* (**Marcel Broodthaers**), *Museum for Myself* (**Peter Blake**), *World Agriculture Museum* (**Asunción Molinos**), *Stemhokkenmuseum/Voting Booth Museum* (**Guillaume Bijl**), *A History of Art in the Arab World: Part 1_Chapter One. Section 139: The Atlas Group (1989 -2004)* (**Walid Raad**), *Blackout Leica Museum* (**Sarkis**), *From the Freud Museum* (**Susan Hiller**), *Museum of Ordure* (**Stuart Brisley**) ...

Museum Show Part 2

9 Dec – 5 Feb 2012

Including:

Palestinian Museum of Natural History and Humankind (**Khalil Rabah**), *Danger Museum* (**Øyvind Renberg & Miho Shimizu**), *Museum of American Art*, *Museo Salinas* (**Vicente Razo**), *Museum of Non-Participation* (**Karen Mirza & Brad Butler**), *Fernsehgalerie/TV Gallery* (**Gerry Schum**), *Museum of Television Culture* (**Jaime Davidovich**), *Museum of Modern Art Syros* (**Martin Kippenberger**), *Museum of Failure* (**Ellen Harvey**), *Victoria and Alferd Museum* (**Åbäke**), *Hu Xiangquian's Museum* (**Hu Xiangquian**), *Museum of Forgotten History* (**Maarten Vanden Eynde**), *Museum of Unfinished Art* (**Mark von Schlegell**), *Museum of Incest* (**Simon Fujiwara**)...

One of the most curious tendencies in modern and contemporary art has been that of museums created by artists. *Museum Show* will be a large-scale exhibition – a museum of museums – displaying this comprehensive selection of highly idiosyncratic, semi-fictional institutions. Presented at Arnolfini in two chapters, beginning with Part 1 from 24 September – 19 November 2011, it will be the first exhibition to chart this particular tendency in contemporary art.

Artists have continued consistently invent their own institutions. The reasons for practitioners deciding to work in this way have varied greatly between artists – from critique directed specifically towards institutions of art, to more contemporary examples that focus their attention towards wider social and political realms of cultural hegemony.

Across its two chapters, *Museum Show* will present museums by approximately 40 artists from across the spectrum of career status, canonical to emerging, and from around the globe. The exhibition presents 'museums' that employ a classic 'museological' approach, including Marcel Broodthaers' seminal *Musée d'Art Moderne, Département des Aigles* or the absurdity of Bill Burns' *Museum of Safety Gear for Small Animals*, through to broader, more conceptual understandings of a museum infrastructure, such as Tom Marioni's *Museum of Conceptual Art* – a functioning bar and an early example of 'convivial' artwork in the US, to the abjection of Stuart Brisley's *Museum of Ordure*, or the utopia of *Museo Aero Solar* – a floating museum made of thousands of recycled carrier bags.

The opening of *Museum Show: Part One* will also mark the landmark occasion of Arnolfini's 50th anniversary, and the culmination of a year of celebration. As part of this year-long 50th anniversary programme, Arnolfini has worked with research theme of *The Apparatus*, reflecting on the role of cultural institutions today. This major historical survey exhibition will look at the different interpretations of what a museum is, whilst charting the reasons and methodologies

used by artists for developing their own semi-fictional institutions. It will be one of the largest exhibitions ever organised by Arnolfini, extending beyond its building to a number of off-site venues and the public realm.

Exhibition curated by Nav Haq, Exhibitions Curator

Press Preview – Museum Show: Part One

Friday 23 September, 2pm – 4pm

Press Preview – Museum Show: Part Two

Thursday 8 December, 2pm – 4pm

Selected 50th Anniversary Weekend Events

Cerith Wyn Evans Paysage Fautif (Wayward Landscape)

Friday 23 September, 9.45pm (Harbourside)

Cabinet Magazine

Alternative Museum Directors Conference

Saturday 24 September, 3pm

Cabinet Magazine's Christopher Turner and Brian Dillon organise an 'Alternative Museum Director's Conference' for artist participating in Museum Show. Based on the research from their *Museum of Projective Personality Testing*, each participant will undertake a different psychometric test for considering what 'kind' of director they are.

Anika, Factory Floor, J D Twitch, Hype Williams

Saturday 24 September, 7.30pm – late



The Apparatus is a year-long project running throughout 2011, to mark Arnolfini's 50th anniversary. This series of exhibitions and events will focus on the conditions of the art world today, particularly its systems of belief and valuation, its role within society, and its relationship to the wider political economy. *The Apparatus* is about the 'makings of' artists, of artworks, of institutions, and of a cultural infrastructure.

For further exhibition information/images contact:

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Arnolfini is open Tues - Sun, 11am - 6pm and Bank Holiday Mondays. Admission free.

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