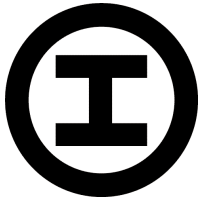


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SOCRATES SCULPTURE PARK

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FLOAT

A SERIES OF TEMPORARY ARTWORKS AND LIVE PERFORMANCES
PRESENTED THROUGHOUT THE PARK

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, AUGUST 29 - 30, 2009

2-6PM / RAIN OR SHINE

FREE

Artists: Clifford Borress, Sarah Braman, Nellie Fleischner, Mitchell Goodman, Otis Houston Jr. aka Black Cherokee, Danny Johnston & Cassie Mey with Terry Hempfling, Lone Wolf & Cub, Yoko Ono, Jesse Peterson & Marina Peterson, Tim Roda, Megumi Tomomitsu

Curated by Chelsea Spengemann

Long Island City, New York (July 23, 2009) – Socrates Sculpture Park is pleased to announce the 2009 edition of **FLOAT**, the 4th biennial series of interactive installations and ephemeral sculptural works. This year **FLOAT** will feature performance and temporary sculpture created by 15 artists specifically for Socrates Sculpture Park. The exhibition will take place during the last weekend in August. Performances are scheduled at the top of every hour from 2-6 PM on Saturday and 2-5 PM on Sunday.

Inspired by an ironic motivational family saying, "Float your hardest!" this year **FLOAT** embraces Socrates Sculpture Park as a place for relaxation, slow summer-time movement, and vigorous people-watching. The artworks will be presented as encounters and interventions for the passerby. Although they will appear spontaneous, experimental, and fleeting, the artworks made for **FLOAT** will also exemplify the dedication, thoughtfulness, and social interest that the contributing artists embrace. 'Floating hard' takes a willful commitment to being buoyant and pliant in the surrounding currents.



Megumi Tomomitsu
"#5 | Spring Collection | 2009 New York"
From the series "Fantastic Plastic Portrait"

Megumi Tomomitsu will begin both afternoons with a performance based on her photography series, *Fantastic Plastic Collection*. On Saturday, wearing a customized bag costume, Tomomitsu will wash, hang to dry, and fold her growing collection of plastic bags. On Sunday, Tomomitsu will place small plastic fruits in the bags before hanging them in a tree. The bags will amplify the wind blowing through the branches for the rest of the day. Pillows will be installed around the base of the tree to encourage a momentary rest surrounded by the meditative sound of the wind.

At 3 PM on Saturday and 4 PM on Sunday, **Danny Johnston** and **Cassie Mey** with guest performer **Terry Hempfling** will perform *Susurrus*, a playful, choreographed dance using trees and small wading pools. *Susurrus* is a word used to describe a whispering or rustling sound.

On Saturday at 4 PM, **Nellie Fleischner** will perform *Paint Box*, twisted up on a tree swing that hangs in the middle of a 10ft tall wood structure wrapped in fabric. When released, paint cans hanging from the bottom of her swing will be lifted by centrifugal force and spin paint onto the fabric to create a surprisingly uniform abstraction. The paint will be visible from the outside as it soaks through the fabric upon contact.

Saturday at 5 PM and Sunday at 4 PM **Otis Houston Jr. aka Black Cherokee** will perform a series of gestures, promoting physical and spiritual wellbeing. Sculpture and signs, like those Houston has energetically been displaying for motorists on the FDR since 1997, will also be installed throughout the park.

Closing the event on Saturday evening at 6 PM siblings **Jesse** and **Marina Peterson** will perform songs and improvised music. Marina is a cellist, performing primarily experimental contemporary and improvised music. Jesse will play guitar, violin and mandola, and provide vocals.

For the final performance on Sunday at 5 PM, drum and trapeze duo **Lone Wolf & Cub** will perform in the Socrates studio. **Ryan Sawyer** will play the drums and **Suzanne Rogaleski** will be on trapeze.

In addition to the scheduled performances, artists **Clifford Borress**, **Sarah Braman**, **Mitchell Goodman**, **Yoko Ono**, and **Tim Roda** will have temporary projects on view Saturday and Sunday during regular park hours, 10 AM - sunset. Borress will lay out a blanket on which scripted object-oriented narratives will occur; Braman will exhibit new sculpture made from only paint and junk; Goodman, in a collaboration with Marina Peterson, will present *Sounding #006*, a weather balloon that does low altitude video recording; and Roda will present a life-size version of a photograph that he recently made with his son in Rome, but with the faces cutout for audience members to photograph themselves within the artist's image.

Finally, Socrates is very pleased to present *Soprano Piece for Socrates Sculpture Park* an instruction piece by Yoko Ono. Ono's instructions will be posted in the Park for visitors to perform throughout the day on Saturday and Sunday.

SCHEDULE:

Saturday, August 29

2 PM Megumi Tomomitsu / *Fantastic Plastic Laundry*
3 PM Danny Johnston and Cassie Mey with Terry Hempfling / *Susurrus*
4 PM Nellie Fleischner / *Paint Box*
5 PM Otis Houston Jr. aka Black Cherokee / performance
6 PM Jesse and Marina Peterson / songs and improvised music
2-6 PM Clifford Borress / experiments and picnic
Mitchell Goodman and Marina Peterson / *Sounding #006*
Yoko Ono / *Soprano Piece For Socrates Sculpture Park*

Sunday, August 30

2 PM Megumi Tomomitsu / *Fantastic Plastic Tree*
3 PM Otis Houston Jr. aka Black Cherokee / performance
4 PM Danny Johnston and Cassie Mey with Terry Hempfling / *Susurrus*
5 PM Lone Wolf & Cub / drums and trapeze
2-5 PM Clifford Borress / science experiments and picnic
Mitchell Goodman and Marina Peterson / *Sounding #006*
Yoko Ono / *Soprano Piece For Socrates Sculpture Park*

On view Saturday & Sunday 10 AM - sunset

-Sarah Braman / sculpture
-Otis Houston Jr. aka Black Cherokee / sculpture and signs
-Tim Roda / photo installation

Children's workshop led by **Chakaia Booker** on Sunday, 12-3PM

Socrates Sculpture Park is open 365 days a year from 10am to sunset and is located at the intersection of Broadway and Vernon Boulevard in Long Island City. For directions to the Park, please visit our website: www.socratessculpturepark.org.

For additional information including a detailed schedule of performances and screenings, please contact Ellen Staller at 718-956-1819 x12 or info@socratessculpturepark.org.

This exhibition is made possible by the dedication and support of our board of directors, friends and volunteers, and by the generosity of: Carnegie Corporation of New York • Charina Endowment Fund • Mark di Suvero • Maxine and Stuart Frankel Foundation • Agnes Gund • Starry Night Fund of Tides Foundation

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