



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Re:Print Re:Present Re:View
Temple Gallery
September 7 – November 3, 2007

Philadelphia, PA — (August 2, 2007) We are pleased to announce the fall exhibition *Re:Print Re:Present Re:View* will open at Temple Gallery in Philadelphia on September 7 and run through November 3, 2007. Organized in partnership with Philagrafika, a regional consortium that promotes printmaking and the printed image, the exhibition features the works of three internationally renowned artists: Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, Rachid Koraïchi and Berni Searle. Each artist's project will directly engage an aspect of Philadelphia's diverse and multiple histories, through a contemporary or historical episode or a site or neighborhood. The exhibition was conceived by guest curator Salah M. Hassan, who is Director of the Africana Studies and Research Center and Professor of African and African Diaspora art history and visual culture in the Department of History of Art, both at Cornell University.

The exhibition at Temple Gallery will be joined by two site-specific projects: Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons's *Corner/Opera. Rethinking a Site*, is multi-media work that will be installed at Paul Robeson House, 4951 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, and open on September 7; and a series of banners, *Homage to Love and Memory*, by Rachid Koraïchi will be installed at the Church of the Advocate, 1801 West Diamond Street, Philadelphia, and open on October 13.

In *Corner/Opera. Rethinking a Site*, her multimedia installations at the Temple Gallery and the Robeson House, Boston-based Afro-Cuban artist Campos-Pons continues her earlier exploration of personal narrative to explore how history and tradition are passed from generation to generation, and how collective memory is preserved in sites and everyday objects. Campos-Pons will install elements such as wallpaper and furniture, and combine

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philagrafika

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PHILADELPHIA EXHIBITIONS INITIATIVE



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them with projected images and prints she made while in residence in July at the Borowsky Center at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia.

Paris-based Algerian artist Rachid Koraïchi's *Homage to Love and Memory* is a public installation of twenty one large banners that will be installed in the Church of Advocate. Prints made from his original drawings for this project will be on view at Temple Gallery. The banners were conceived as a dialogue with and homage to seven Philadelphia writers, poets and activists who have connections to historic or current events in Philadelphia. Central to Koraïchi's work is the Sufi idea crystallized in Al-Rumi's concept of the inseparability of aesthetics and metaphysics; his compositions for the banners are rooted in Sufi significations, by their ordering of numbers and their symbolisms that suggest the transcendent link between human beings and the divine order.

In her installation of prints and video at Temple Gallery, phan-tom (Flag Project) (*working title*), South African artist Berni Searle continues her exploration of issues around history, memory and place. Literally and figuratively creating a 'spin on history' Searle's video creates a whirling mass that draws everything near it towards its centre, eventually becoming subsumed in the process. Playing with visibility and invisibility, Searle's video draws on the idea of a vortex as a situation or feeling that seems to swamp and engulf everything. The work loosely takes the myth of Betsy Ross as a starting point to develop a work that "looks at some of the more troublesome aspects of nationalism, as well as the role of gender and domesticity in 'the making of a nation'." The print component of Searle's installation will include prints made while she was in residence in June at the Brodsky Center at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ.

The *Re:Print Re:Present Re:View* project also includes a publication that comprises an artist's project by each of the exhibition artists, an essay by Hassan, and other components that will be available for downloading from the Web. Among the many programs planned to accompany the exhibition and installation are a lecture by Hassan on Thursday, September 6, a celebration and panel discussion at Church of the Advocate on Saturday, October 13, and a concert at Paul Robeson House that same evening. For additional information about the artists, the exhibition projects and related programs, please go to www.temple.edu/tyler/exhibitions or www.philagrafika.org.

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For more information or press images please contact Robert Wuilfe at 215.782.2776 or rbw@temple.edu. For information on Philagrafika and the larger project, or to set up interviews with the participating artists or the curator, please contact Caitlin Perkins at 215.701.6148 or cperkins@philagrafika.org.