PRESS RELEASE

manifesta^o

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MANIFESTA 7

THE EUROPEAN BIENNIAL OF CONTEMPORARY ART

19 July - 2 November 2008

Manifesta 7, the European Biennial of Contemporary Art is hosted by the Trentino – South Tyrol Region from July 19 to November 2. It takes place in Italy for the first time, stretching across an entire regional territory, encompassing venues in four cities along a course of 150 kilometers joining the north and south of Europe along the Brenner axis: Fortezza (Bressanone), ex Alumix in Bolzano, the Palazzo delle Poste in Trento, Manifattura Tabacchi, ex Peterlini and the train station in Rovereto.

The **exhibitions** of Manifesta 7 in Fortezza, Bolzano, Trento and Rovereto, including a number of **special projects**, host **more than 230 artists, architects, writers and experts from around the world** and the majority of the paintings, sculptures, videos, installations and sound works on show have been specially created for Manifesta 7.

In Rovereto, Adam Budak develops his exhibition **Principle Hope** in both the 20th Century industrial building of the ex Peterlini and the 19th Century Manifattura Tabacchi and **manifestation**, curated by the Office for Cognitive Urbanism, takes place at the train station of Rovereto.

Anselm Franke/Hila Peleg in Trento curate the exhibition THE SOUL (or, Much Trouble in the Transportation of Souls) at the Palazzo delle Poste, a functionalist building from the 1930s.

Raqs Media Collective, formed by Jeebesh Bagchi, Monica Narula & Shuddhabrata Sengupta, present their exhibition The Rest of Now in Bolzano at the ex Alumix, another industrial building from the early 20th Century; a series of events entitled Tabula Rasa, by Denis Isaia in conversation with Raqs Media Collective, is presented over the 111 opening days in Room 124 of the ex Alumix.

The **entire curatorial team** works together at the final exhibition venue, the Austrian fortress of **Fortezza**, with **Scenarios**, a project exploring the concept of the immaterial dimension.

Particular attention is dedicated to **educational activities** throughout the entire region, with a special didactic program linking all the various exhibitions. The didactic team invites people to approach contemporary art in a way that freely shows their own personality and imagination, to build a hospitable place where opinions can be recognized and re-valued. Guided tours in English, Italian and German are available during opening hours, as well as a range of special projects, education materials and activities for school classes.

Silvana Editoriale has published **three catalogues** for Manifesta 7: INDEX, a guide book dedicated to the four exhibitions and the participating artists (in Italian, German and English); COMPANION, a volume of critical and theoretical studies about the shows and artistic projects (in English); SCENARIOS, a monograph edition dedicated to the Fortezza project (in Italian, German, English).

Together with Manifesta 7, many **Parallel Events** take place throughout the two provinces: a selected program incorporating **48 events in South Tyrol and 50 in Trentino**. This includes exhibitions, events, performances and concerts supported by many of the numerous institutions and associations that have made of this region into such a dynamic territory for contemporary art.

Manifesta 7 exhibitions are open to the public from 19 July to 2 November 2008, everyday from 10.00 am to 7 pm and on Friday from 10.00 to 9.00 pm. Free entry for children and teenagers under 18, students, disabled people and seniors over 65. Manifesta 7 **Mobility Card** is available; it is valid on 4 days within the period of 17 July and 2 November 2008 and includes entrance ticket to the exhibitions and transport on regional rail and on city buses leading to the venues.

Manifesta 7 is supported by the **Autonomous Province of Bolzano and Trento** and by the **International Foundation Manifesta**.

Manifesta 7 main sponsors are **Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Bolzano/Stiftung Südtiroler Sparkasse, Unicredit, Seat Pagine Gialle, Zumtobel**.

All exhibition venues open from 10.00 am to 7.00 pm. **Official Opening:** 19 July, 2008. **Press and Professional Preview:** 17 and 18 July, 2008.

Further information:

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