

## Manifesta 5

.....POLITICAL RUMOUR/ CULTURAL LANDSCAPE/ PRESENT IMPERFECT/  
RUINS IN REVERSE/ ZONES OF CONTINGENCY/ UNDERCONSTRUCTION/  
SPIRITUAL NOISES/ PROJECT AND ACCUSATION/ LANDSCAPE MANUAL/  
ENCOUNTER WITH AMBIGUITY/ CITY FOLDED OVER ONTO ITSELF/ TWO  
WAY MIRROR/ DOUBLE EXPOSURE/ BIPOLAR CITY/ POWER OF IDENTITY/  
POTEMKIN VILLAGE/ STAGED MATRIX/ TRICKLAND / SILENT FACTORY/  
.....TO BE CONTINUED

**JUNE 11 2003 - SEPTEMBER 30 2003**

Manifesta 5 as curated by the team of Marta Kuzma and Massimiliano Gioni opens in San Sebastian, Spain on June 11th, 2003 to include over fifty artists from throughout Europe.

Departing from the notion of the city as a territory, the curators refer to Manifesta 5 as an instrument of investigation into San Sebastian as a privileged social site and catalytic trigger to launch the formulation of their project. Deferring from the spectacle of the political and bypassing contemporary art's recent obsession with global geographies, the works within Manifesta 5 illustrate how the cryptic, opaque and enigmatic may reveal the subtlety of the polemical and the potential of its transgression.

Manifesta 5 attempts to explore cultural landscapes as they get refracted through hieroglyphic languages. The projects developed in Manifesta 5 concentrate on the formulation of intricate and idiosyncratic structures that translate reality into enigmatic forms, corresponding to a more stratified understanding of the complexity of one's relationship to the world. Such complexity reveals contradictions and simultaneity - between the demand for order and the will for formlessness, between the rational and irrational, construction and expression, the performative and static, and between symmetry and chaos, violence and rupture.

In approaching San Sebastian and its broader Basque territory as a zone of contingency, Manifesta 5 and the artists involved in the project turn to time and space as malleable, locating their works within a temporal gap that houses at once the past, the present and the future.

The articulation of the exhibition endeavors to reflect these tensions, by occupying both the historic centre of San Sebastian and its industrial, peripheral counterpart - the port town of Pasajes. Extending beyond the symmetry, order, homogeneity, and leisure of San Sebastian into the polemics of its neighbouring Pasajes, Manifesta 5 aims at revealing the essence of something that is simultaneously economic, political, historical and aesthetic.

In looking for clues provided by the physical space of its inception, Manifesta 5 in September 2003 initiated the Office of Alternative Urban Planning with the Berlage Institute, a Rotterdam based post-graduate laboratory of architecture and urban research, directed by the architect Alejandro Zaera Polo.

Together with a designated team of architects, the curatorial team explored how Manifesta, as a cultural project, might enable the reinvigoration of Pasajes, one of the most impoverished areas in the Gipuzkoa territory located outside San Sebastian's city center. The collaboration was not intended as a process to generate something that merely focused on the essence of its findings, rather on its possible effects. This method of investigation proved one way to abstract from the built environment and from the irregularities relating to the traditional flow of city, region, province and state, implicit of the Basque territory. The involvement of the Office of Alternative Urban Planning was crucial in overcoming the bottlenecks associated with the complicated layers of public administration to facilitate the role of curators, artists and cultural producers as negotiators. Following four months, the participation of OAUP as a laboratory of ideas provided scenarios that extended Manifesta's role into a feasibility study as to how cultural agents may provide alternative solutions to reviving areas such as the port city of Pasajes. Since the programme's inception, Pasajes has been designated as a priority within the region whereby Manifesta 5 serves as the catalyst in diversifying an area formerly cut off from its community.

Artist projects in Manifesta 5 will be located throughout San Sebastian including Arteleku, Koldo Mitxlenu, Kubo Kursaal, Museo San Telmo, and within Pasajes in Casa Ciriza and Ondartxo. An additional academic program related to the issues explored by Berlage and within the exhibition will be held at the time of Manifesta 5. A catalogue co-produced by the architectural publishing house ACTAR in Barcelona with a contribution Manual from the Berlage Institute, Rotterdam, will be available at the opening.

#### List of Participating Artists

Viktor Alimpiev (Russia)  
1973, Moscow, lives in Moscow

Kai Althoff (Germany)  
1966, Köln, lives in Köln

Micol Assael (Italy)  
1979, Rome, lives in Rome

Sven Augustijnen (Belgium)  
1970, Mechelen, lives in Brussels

Zbydrik Baladran (Czech)  
1973, Prague, lives in Cesky Brod and Prague.

Michaël Borremans (Belgium)  
1963, Ghent, lives in Ghent

Carlos Bunga (Portugal)  
1976, Porto, lives in Porto

Duncan Campbell (Scotland)  
1972, Belfast, lives in Glasgow

Jan de Cock (Belgium)  
1976, Brussels, Lives in Brussels

D.A.E (Basque Country)  
Peio Aguirre  
1972, Elorrio, lives in Donostia - San Sebastián  
Leire Bergara  
1973, Bilbao, lives in Donostia - San Sebastián

Jeremy Deller (UK)  
1966, London, lives in London

Andrea Faciu (Romania)  
1977, Bucharest, studies in Munich

Iñaki Garmendia (Basque Country)  
1972, Ordizia, lives in Bilbao

Kim Hiorthøys (Norway)  
1973, Trondheim, lives in Oslo

Bas Jan Ader (Holland)  
1942, Winschoten, missing since 1977

Johannes Kahrs (Germany)  
1965, Bremen, lives in Berlin

Küllli Kaats (Estonia)  
1975, Tallinn, lives in Tallinn

Mark Manders (Netherlands)  
1968, Volkel, lives in Arnhem

Asier Mendizabal (Basque Country)  
1973, Ordizia, lives in Bilbao

Michael Sailstorfer (Germany)  
1979, Vilsbiburg/Niederbayern, lives in Munich

Garrett Phelan (Ireland)  
1965, Dublin, lives in Dublin

The Office of Alternative Urban Planning  
Verónica Arcos (1974, Chile), Sannah Belzer (1979, Holland),  
Sebastián Khourian (1969, Argentina), Olga Skaba (1972, Poland),  
Claudia Strahl (1975, Germany), Monica Villate (1976, Colombia),  
Constanze Zehi (1973, Holland)

Anu Pennanen (Finland)  
1975 Kirkkonummi, lives in Helsinki

Kirsten Pieroth (Germany)  
1970, Offenbach, lives in Berlin

Marc Quer (France)  
1965, Villepinte, lives in Marseille

Markus Schinwald (Austria)  
1973, Vienna, lives in Vienna

Eyal Sivan (Israel)  
1964, Haifa, lives in Paris  
and  
Michel Khleifi (Palestine)  
1950, Nazareth, lives in Brussels

Hito Steyerl (Germany)  
1966, Munich, lives in Berlin

Misha Stroj (Austria)  
1974, Ljubljana, lives in Vienna

Vangelis Vlahis (Greece)  
1971, Athens, lives in Athens

Cathy Wilkes (Glasgow)  
1967, Glasgow, lives in Glasgow

Yevgeniy Yufit (Russia)  
1961, Saint Petersburg, lives in Saint Petersburg

Olivier Zabat (France)  
1965 Grenoble, lives in Paris

David Zink Yi (Germany)  
1973 Lima, Lives in Berlin

David Ziura (Lithuania)  
1968, Vilnius, lives in Vilnius