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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MAK CENTER RESIDENTS OFFER *FINAL PROJECTS*  
AT SCHINDLER HOUSE**

**September 10 – September 12, 2010**  
**Opening reception Friday, September 10, 7 – 9 p.m.**

(West Hollywood) Since 1996, the MAK Center for Art & Architecture at the Schindler House has offered the Artists and Architects in Residence program, hosting early career professionals from around the world for a six-month live/work opportunity. Based at the R.M. Schindler-designed Mackey Apartments in the mid-Wilshire district, Group XXX is approaching the end of the residency period and will present a *Final Projects* exhibition opening Friday, September 10 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. and continuing through Sunday, September 12, 2010. Zameer Basrai, Mandla Reuter, Markus Zeber, and the team of Felix Burrichter and Sarah Ortmeyer have each developed final projects influenced by an interlacing of their ongoing work, their experience of American culture and urban Los Angeles, and the work of R.M. Schindler.

Architect and aspiring historian from India, **Zameer Basrai** has conceived a project deeply rooted in the social elements of urban planning. He criticizes the fragmentation of American cities, be [it](#) through the built environment or forces such as marginalization, racism, or gentrification. Fragmentation, he asserts, has become such an assumed part of one's urban experience that it is often regarded as something to be navigated rather than challenged. Basrai has sought to identify areas in Los Angeles where boundaries exist not through physical structure or topography, but through commonly held beliefs. He has developed a "prosthesis," a dramatically extended mirror that draws attention to the act of trying to see "over" physical and conceptual boundaries.

Basrai's final project, *Urbanism Alone*, will present a series of photographic works documenting the prosthesis in action at three such sites: 5<sup>th</sup> St. & Main St., the Los



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Angeles River near downtown, and the Westwood neighborhood. Through these, he seeks to explain and locate the “abstract forces” defining urban life in Los Angeles. German artist **Mandla Reuter** presents two bodies of work. *The Alley* is a sculptural installation that disrupts one of the assumed elements in any residential property, the driveway. Consisting of several different objects, urban detritus is strewn along the drive leading to the Schindler House front door. In Los Angeles, being able to drive from garage to destination is often criticized for causing a removed relationship with the city. Reuter temporarily forces Schindler House visitors to navigate and interact with their surroundings. The project points up the aesthetics of this neighborhood as compared to others where large objects and even trash regularly line the streets.

Reuter also presents a portion of his project *West Elusive*. Throughout his residency, the artist has prospected for real estate throughout Los Angeles. To invoke conversation on authenticity and ownership, Reuter intends to purchase land in L.A. and transport a layer of its topsoil around the world, to be exhibited at various sites in a layout that matches the shape of the plot. At the Schindler House, Reuter shows pieces and documents circumscribing the yet unrealized work.

Austrian artist **Markus Zeber** has been making an ever-increasing body of kinetic sculptures during his residency. Pairing domestic goods with batteries and other power sources, Zeber gives new personalities to the overlooked pieces of cheap plastic and outdated electronics that fill Los Angeles’s garages and flea markets – two fly swatters engage in meditative movements through a hanging mobile, a coat hanger struggles to stand up, then falls down, then begins again, et cetera.

For his final project at the Schindler House, Zeber is interested in exploring the relations between the movement and mechanics of the human body with that of the engineered world that surrounds us. His installation muses on that entangled relationship and its role in the perpetual, mechanical motion that is inherent to American mythology. Through the open hours of the exhibition, his artworks will be active inside the Schindler House.

New York-based, German architect and publisher **Felix Burrichter** and German artist **Sarah Ortmeyer** have produced a publication entitled *XXX BURRICHTER ORTMEYER*. The project presents and expands upon their research into the inextricable link between Rudolf Schindler’s architectural practice and his wife Pauline’s radical, progressive politics. They’ve not only sought extensive information on the Schindlers, but have also investigated the work of Rudi Gernreich, another Austrian-American immigrant who was known for his futuristic fashion designs and gay rights activism.



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Burrichter/Ortmeyer's 48-page, color magazine is organized around a photo series documenting Schindler houses across Los Angeles. These are interspersed with photographs that position design as a social practice. Images of Schindler furniture and Gernreich clothing are seen alongside letters between Rudolf and Pauline and documents from the American Communist Party and the Mattachine Society, an early homophile group founded by Gernreich and his lover Harry Hay. The publication, which will be available for sale, is accompanied by a small installation based on a text on dress by Immanuel Kant. It features native Southern California flora covered with high fashion garments, a response to Kant's stylistic sense: he matched colors based on flowers because "Nature doesn't produce what doesn't cater to the eyes."

*Final Projects* will be on view at the Schindler House from Friday evening, September 10 through Sunday, September 12, 2010. There will be a free public opening from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. on September 10. The MAK Center for Art & Architecture at the Schindler House is located at 835 N. Kings Road in West Hollywood. Public hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Regular admission is \$7/\$17 with the guide book, *Schindler By MAK*; students and seniors, \$6/\$16 with book; free for Friends of the Schindler House and on Fridays, 4 to 6 p.m. Parking is available at the public structure at the northeast corner of Kings Road and Santa Monica Boulevard.

For information, the public may visit [www.makcenter.org](http://www.makcenter.org) or call (323) 651-1510.

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