

MAK

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MAK CENTER WELCOMES 22ND GROUP OF INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS & ARCHITECTS IN RESIDENCE

(West Hollywood, May 2006) As an institution founded through international cooperation, the MAK Center for Art & Architecture remains committed to promoting connections between the art and design worlds of Los Angeles and creative communities worldwide. Awarded competitively, the MAK Center Artists & Architects in Residence program offers residents a chance to enrich their work through a six-month stay in Los Angeles, while bringing a variety of international viewpoints to interact with the local scene.

Living and working in the R.M. Schindler-designed Mackey Apartments in the mid-Wilshire district, MAK Center residents have staged exhibitions, salons, concerts, "happenings" and innumerable events over the past ten years. Engaging the landscape and culture of southern California and the western U.S., residents' work is always fresh and lively. The MAK Center welcomes its newest group of residents who promise to continue these innovative traditions.

Alfredo Barsuglia

Alfredo Barsuglia was born in 1980 in Graz, Austria. Barsuglia studied painting and graphics at the University of Applied Arts, Vienna, the Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna and the Academy of Fine Arts, Krakow and graduated in 2003 with distinction. Barsuglia's first solo exhibition was in 2001 at the Peithner-Lichtenfels gallery in Vienna. He has since had numerous exhibitions and projects in public spaces at home and abroad.

Barsuglia's project, *Los Angeles Illegal*, is based on the interchanges among fiction, reality and power. He will realize guerrilla art projects in public spaces throughout the city, in the unexpected and critical spirit of terror attacks. *Los Angeles Illegal* will have an influence on the physical and psychological structure of the city. Barsuglia develops his work in a project-oriented way and once his sight is set on a target, he generates executions in diverse media.

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Wulf Walter Böttger

Wulf Walter Böttger was educated in Berlin, Berkeley and Shanghai. In his work, he focuses on reading architecture as a language of physical and psychological desires, a sensual and intimate form of cultural narration and physical interaction. He sees a continuity from a finger's touch upon an architectural surface to the political messages inscribed across the physical face of cities. He has participated in various exhibitions and competitions, written theoretical publications and is the recipient of several awards.

L.A.'s unique concentration of medical, scientific and cultural facilities targeting the human body—from medical and bioengineering to the art scene and the corporeality of everyday life—will serve as the background for research into the tangential nature of the human and the architectural body. Within the last decade, the body became the raw material for bio-design and engineering. Surgeons, bioengineers and materials researchers work on a live corpus and its parts, much as architects work on creating tectonic spaces, their related materiality and respective building strategies. The issue of this research will be an approach to a possible cross-breeding of flesh-and-stone cultures.

Andreas Fogarasi

Andreas Fogarasi is a Vienna-based artist and co-editor of *derive*, a Magazine for Urban Studies. He has studied art and architecture in Vienna and Paris and has exhibited widely, including at Manifesta 4, Frankfurt, Germany; Apex Art, New York; Palais de Tokyo, Paris; and Künstlerhaus, Vienna. His solo exhibitions include Grazer Kunstverein, Graz, Austria; Sparwasser HQ, Berlin; and Display Gallery, Prague.

Public Brands is an ongoing project that traces new visual representations of the public sector. Logos, signage and identity systems form an important part of the recent re-orientation towards corporate behavior by governmental organizations and entire nations. The first step in this shift of cultural, infrastructural and economic politics towards image-politics has been the development of tourism brands, but this branding is also applied to other sectors, e.g. in the attempts to strengthen the "regional identity" of a population. During his residency, Fogarasi will develop a series of works that map the branding of the greater Los Angeles region and its large number of strongly segregated parts.

Sonja Vordermaier

Sonja Vordermaier is a German artist who received an MA in Fine Arts at the Hochschule für bildende Künste in Hamburg. Also in Hamburg, she has had solo exhibitions at the K3 in Kampnagel, Galerie Einer and Ausstellungsraum Taubenstrasse. She received the H.W. & Hector Prize and the Grant of the City of Hamburg and has participated in two residencies in Switzerland.

Interested in the mobile identity of Los Angeles, Vordermaier perceives that in addition to the static city, a steadily moving city exists. For Vordermaier, life in Los Angeles

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equates to living in a car because so many people spend a great deal of time in long distance commutes and unavoidable traffic jams. Exploring the car as a symbol of personal freedom, identity and privacy, she plans to develop a mobile installation with exhibitions, performances and lectures taking place in a convoy of vehicles. Local and international artists will be invited to generate their own solutions for a display and viewing experience inside a car. The moving exhibition space (consisting of individual vehicles) will scatter throughout L.A. traffic, merging again in different neighborhoods in the city.

The residents are available for studio visits, presentations and other programming during their course of stay. The MAK Center Residents will publicly present their Final Projects in September 2006.

The jury for the 2005-2006 MAK Center Artists and Architects in Residence program was comprised of Hernan Diaz Alonso, Patrick Charpenel, Magdalena Jetelová, Peter Noever, and Claudia Oetker.

The MAK Center for Art & Architecture is located at the Schindler House, 835 N. Kings Road in West Hollywood. Public hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission with purchase of the guide book *Schindler by MAK*: \$17/\$16 students and seniors; admission only: \$7/\$6 for students and seniors; children under 12 are FREE. Admission is FREE on Friday afternoons from 4pm - 6pm, September 10 (Schindler's birthday) and December 1 (A Day Without Art). Admission is always FREE for *Friends of the Schindler House*. Parking is available at the public structure at the northeast corner of Kings Road and Santa Monica Boulevard.

For further information on MAK Center programs, the public may visit www.MAKcenter.org or call (323) 651-1510.

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