

**For the media**

**Free to be published 2 April 2009 at 12 p.m.**

**Pro Arte Foundation Finland announces**

## **Susan Philipsz has been chosen as the artist to realise the IHME Project 2010 and the IHME Edition 2009**

The Scottish artist **Susan Philipsz** (b. 1965), living in Berlin, will be the second artist commissioned to produce **the IHME Project 2010** in Helsinki and **the IHME Edition of the year 2009**. The IHME Edition will be realised autumn 2009 in collaboration with TV channel YLE Teema.

The foundation invited Philipsz to realise the IHME Project 2010 because in recent years she has proved to be a highly interesting and original contemporary artist. In her work she combines elements important to the foundation's agenda: collective experience and an interest in public space. The songs used by Philipsz in her works trigger people's collective memory and thus present another way of looking at a community. In addition to museum and gallery exhibitions, she has created several sound pieces in public spaces since the year 1995. In these works location and context – e.g. a church, a supermarket, an auditorium – are an integral part of the artwork.

Philipsz studied Fine Art at Duncan of Jordanstone, Dundee, Scotland from 1989 to 1993 and did her MA at the University of Ulster in Belfast from 1993 to 1994.

Philipsz creates sculptures using sound. She is interested in the values related to space and how sound can define architecture. The psychological effects of song and the way songs can evoke immediate emotions and memories, emphasizing the listener's spatial perception of the self are some of the key elements of Philipsz' approach.

Philipsz often uses popular music and film themes as the basis of her art. In her works, she sings – usually a cappella – melancholy tunes that deal with absence, loss and longing.

One of the major breakthroughs of Philipsz' career was the **Sculpture Projects Münster '07** in Germany. The focus of this event in Münster, organised once every decade, is art in public space. Philipsz designed a work called *The Lost Reflection* in Münster. Located under a bridge, this work is based on Jacques Offenbach's composition *The Tales of Hoffmann*, which has its origins in the

writings of the German author E.T.A. Hoffmann. It tells the story of the evil courtesan Giulietta, whose seductive powers enabled her to steal Hoffman's reflection. The story sung by Philipsz travels across the water as a beautiful duet. The artwork became so popular with the local public that the city of Münster decided to purchase the piece and make it a permanent addition to the city's collection of public art, alongside works from such artists as **Bruce Nauman, Dan Graham, Jorge Pardon** and **Jenny Holzer**.

In Scandinavia Susan Philipsz' works have been on show at, for instance, a solo exhibition at **Malmö Konsthall** and **the Jarla Partilager Foundation** in Stockholm in 2008-2009. In Finland Philipsz' sound installation *Two Part Harmony* (2006) was featured in the *ARS06 exhibition* at the Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma.

Susan Philipsz' upcoming exhibitions and projects include an exhibition called *Lowlands* at Museum Ludwig, in Köln, and a work called *Appear To Me* at the Silos monastery in Burgos, Spain, commissioned by **Lynn Cooke**, the chief curator of the Reina Sofia art museum in Madrid. A new work in a public space will be materialised this year on Governors Island, New York, produced in conjunction with Creative Time.

Susan Philipsz is represented by **Tanya Bonakdar Gallery** in New York, **Ellen de Bruijne Projects** in Amsterdam and **Isabella Bortolozzi Gallery** in Berlin.

**More information:**

[www.tanyabonakdargallery.com](http://www.tanyabonakdargallery.com)

[www.edbprojects.nl](http://www.edbprojects.nl)

[www.bortolozzi.com](http://www.bortolozzi.com)

**Susan Philipsz' artworks in public space:**

- 2009**     *Appear To Me*, Real Abadia de Silos, Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain  
*Liberty*, Lima Pier, Governors Island, New York, USA  
*We'll All Go Together*, Walker Arts Center, Minneapolis, USA  
*Woods so Wild*, Victoria Miro Garden, London, UK  
*Rosa*, Centre of Contemporary Art, Tourn, Poland  
*From A Distance*, Imperial War Museum, Duxford, UK
- 2008**     *One and the Same*, Music Hall, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, USA  
*Pathetic Fallacy*, Folkstone Triennale, Folkstone, UK  
*More Than This*, Juan Miro Foundation, Palma, Majorca, Spain  
*The Internationale*, Out of Bounds, ICA, London, UK

- The Internationale*, Turbine Hall, Cockatoo Island, Sydney, Australia  
*Long Gone*, Aspen Art Museum, Colorado, USA  
*Sunset Song*, Villa Manin Centre for Contemporary Art, Italy
- 2007**     *The Lost Reflection*, Skulptur Projekte Münster 07, Germany  
*Follow Me*, Madrid Abierto, Madrid, Spain  
*Long Gone*, The Grand Promenade, Athens, Greece
- 2006**     *Follow Me*, Berlin Biennale, Berlin, Spain  
*Rosa, Tina B*, Festival of Contemporary Art, Prague  
*Radio Waves Goodbye*, Hidden Rythms, Nijmegen, Netherlands
- 2005**     *Stay With Me*, Church of Santa Crux, Turin Triennale, Rivoli, Italy  
*The Long Goodbye*, Leaps of Faith, Nicosia, Cyprus  
*Atlantis*, Dundee Contemporary Arts, Dundee, UK
- 2004**     *Songs From Film Sung in the Cinema*, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, UK
- 2002**     *Sunset Song*, Art Pace, San Antonio, USA  
*Cast Together in 'C'*, Cork Mid Summer Festival, Cork, Ireland
- 2001**     *Victory*, The International Language, Belfast, UK
- 2000**     *The Internationale*, Manifesta 3, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 1998**     *Filter*, Resonate, Laganside Buscenter, Belfast, UK
- 1997**     *Red Shift*, MacLoed Hall, Pierce Institute, Glasgow, UK  
*Metropola*, Tesco Metro, Manchester, UK
- 1995**     *Two Part Harmony*, Design Centre, Belfast, UK  
*Meltdown*, The Glassworks, Derry, UK  
*Safe*, Wilmont House, Lady Dixon Park, Belfast, UK

**Media material**

Material for the media can be found here:

Press releases: [www.proartefoundation.fi](http://www.proartefoundation.fi) / [www.ihmeproductions.fi](http://www.ihmeproductions.fi)

Press images: [www.proartefoundation.fi/press](http://www.proartefoundation.fi/press) / [www.ihmeproductions.fi](http://www.ihmeproductions.fi) ->

Media

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