



Docks Art fair 09, September 14-20, 2009, Lyon **Press release as of 04/21/09**

Drawing on the success of its debut, Docks Art fair, Lyon's international contemporary art fair, will take place this year during the opening week of the Lyon Biennial of Contemporary Art, September 14-20, 2009. Located on the docks along the Saône river, Docks Art fair will present nearly 40 international galleries and as many artist solo shows.

Docks Art fair 09, a promising second edition

In 2007, Docks Art fair welcomed 12,000 visitors who discovered 39 solo shows by artists from 39 selected galleries. Among them, 220 specialized journalists and 500 private collectors and professionals from around the globe, weaved between the aisles of the fair. The first edition, judged highly professional yet convivial, enjoyed a great public success, receiving praise from the French and international press.

The second edition, which will take place September 14-20, promises to be even better. The founders of the fair, Olivier and Patricia Houg, have planned the event to coincide once again with the opening week of the Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art. This decision will serve to emphasize the complementary nature of the two events and the superb quality of their artistic programming.

Docks Art Fair and the Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art, a key international event

The fair will once again be affiliated with the Lyon Biennale of Contemporary Art, one of the ten largest biennales in the contemporary art world. Nestled in the "Lyon of the 21st century" area, renovated through a series of sophisticated projects, including one by the famous architectural duo, Jakob & Mac Farlane, the Docks Art fair tent will be located just steps from the Biennale's main exhibition space, "La Sucrière." These simultaneous events will bring together for one week international art world professionals (curators, dealers, critics), collectors from five continents and French and European art-lovers. The Press Village for the two events will be set up in the Docks Art fair tent.

Docks Art fair to feature young talent

Docks Art fair is proud to support emerging artists and spotlight the defining roles of the galleries that represent them. As made evident by the concept of "solo shows", Docks Art fair actively participates in the discovery of young artists and new galleries. For these solo shows, a feature unique to Docks Art fair, each gallery stand will present one artist's work in a space of equal size. This year 40 galleries were selected by a committee comprised of art world figures (Nathalie Ergino, director of the Institut d'art contemporain de Villeurbanne, Pascal Neveux, director of the FRAC Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur, Barbara Polla, director of the Swiss gallery Analix Forever, Philippe Piguet, historian, art critic and independent curator, and Jean-Marc Salomon, founder of the Fondation pour l'art contemporain Claudine et Jean-Marc Salomon).

Lyon, a creative capital at the heart of Europe

Located in the lush Rhône-Alpes region of France, Lyon offers a prime backdrop for the fair. Collectors supporting artistic production and emerging talent have long been involved with the region's many initiatives, both public and private, in contemporary art. The region also counts within its borders important museums such as the Musée d'art contemporain de Lyon, the Musée d'art moderne de Saint-Etienne, the Musée de Grenoble, as well as premier institutions like the Institut d'art contemporain de Villeurbanne, the Magasin de Grenoble, and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts de Lyon.

Lyon's location, neighboring Switzerland and Italy as well as Germany and Spain, is a major asset for the fair. Easy to access, the city is a platform for international exchange, a place where the art market naturally meets the business world.

Exclusive event programming for collectors and special guests

All week long, Docks Art fair will offer a full schedule of exclusive events: exhibition tours at contemporary art institutions in and around Lyon, gallery visits, architectural tours, private parties in high-profile spots, and organized encounters with artists and art world professionals.

The Montblanc prize at Docks Art fair

Montblanc, maintaining its support of young artists, has created in conjunction with Docks Art fair the Montblanc/Docks Art fair prize. An international selection committee will award the prize to one of the forty artists represented at the fair. The winner, who will be announced on September 14th at 12pm at Docks Art fair, will then have the chance to exhibit his or her work in the new Montblanc store on the Place Vendôme in October 2009.

Acquisitions committees at the fair

The city of Lyon, through the initiative of its cultural deputy, Mr. Képénékian, has set up an acquisitions committee dedicated to Docks Art fair for the city's collections. A partnership specially created between the Musée d'Art Contemporain (MAC) and a private business will allow the museum to welcome into its collection one work displayed at Docks Art fair chosen by Thierry Raspail, the museum's director. The Institut d'Art Contemporain de Villeurbanne has also created an acquisitions committee that will meet during the fair.

Practical Information

Monday, September 14th to Sunday, September 20th 2009
Located on the Docks, 100m from La Sucrière

Quai Rambaud
69002 Lyon

Access : Métro A, Perrache stop
Tram T1, Montrochet stop

Partners



Contacts

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