

Serpentine Gallery

Press Release

Yoko Ono, Vivienne Westwood, Gilbert & George and Brian Eno, along with 50 other contributors, present their manifestos for the 21st century on 18 and 19 October

Press images: www.serpentinegallery.org/press

Manifesto Marathon, the third in the Serpentine Gallery's acclaimed series of Marathon events takes place on **18 and 19 October** in the closing weekend of the **Serpentine Gallery Pavilion 2008, designed by Frank Gehry**.

Manifesto Marathon comes at a time when artists are working less in formal groups and defined artistic movements. The Marathon showcases a new generation of artists alongside practitioners from the worlds of literature, design, science, philosophy, music and film who are returning to the historical notion of the manifesto.

Avant-garde pioneer **Yoko Ono, Gilbert & George**, who famously proclaimed "Art for All", and **Ben Vautier**, key protagonist of the Fluxus movement, and legendary artist **Elaine Sturtevant** will join a new generation of artists such as **Terence Koh, Hilary Koob-Sassen** and **Athanasios Argianas** to present their manifestos for the 21st century in this two-day 'futurological congress' in the park.

The Marathon will also feature architects, including **Andrea Branzi, Peter Cook, Charles Jencks, Claude Parent** and **Rem Koolhaas**; scientists, writers and historians including the eminent **Eric Hobsbawm**; film directors including the legendary **Agnès Varda**; and philosophers, designers, and musicians including musical revolutionary **Brian Eno**. **Vivienne Westwood's** manifesto *Active Resistance to Propaganda* will be performed by 26 performers and **Marina Abramović** will be accompanied by 14 performers.

The *Manifesto Marathon* draws on the Serpentine Gallery's close proximity with Speakers' Corner in Hyde Park, which has been used as a platform by Karl Marx, Vladimir Lenin, George Orwell and William Morris, among many others.

This year's *Manifesto Marathon* is the third in a series of Marathon events, conceived by Hans Ulrich Obrist, Serpentine Gallery Co-director of Exhibitions and Programmes and Director of International Projects. The series began with *Interview Marathon 2006*, led and imagined by Obrist and Rem Koolhaas, a 24-hour, non-stop interview event featuring some of the greatest names in international contemporary culture. In *Experiment Marathon 2007*,

Park Nights 2008

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created by Olafur Eliasson and Jaume Plensa, leading figures from the worlds of art, science and academia performed experiments that explored ideas of time, space and of reality.

Serpentine Gallery Manifesto Marathon Participants:

Marina Abramović, Athanasios Argianas, Pier Vittorio Aureli, Christian Boltanski, Nicolas Bourriaud, Andrea Branzi, Paul Chan, Peter Cook, Minerva Cuevas, Ekaterina Degot, Jimmie Durham, Brian Eno, Henry Flynt, Yona Friedman, Gilbert & George, John Giorno, Fritz Haeg, K8 Hardy, Susan Hefuna, Eric Hobsbawm, Karl Holmqvist, Stewart Home, Charles Jencks, Terence Koh, Silvia Kolbowski, Hilary Koob-Sassen, Rem Koolhaas, Zak Kyles, Nick Laessing, John Latham, Jean-Jacques Lebel, Manifesto Club, Tom McCarthy, Jonas Mekas, Nathaniel Mellors, Gustav Metzger, Ingo Niermann, Yoko Ono, Claude Parent, Adam Pendleton, Falke Pisano, PLATFORM, Yvonne Rainer, Raqs Media Collective, Lee Scrivner, Tino Sehgal, Taryn Simon, SpRoUt, Barbara Steveni, Elaine Sturtevant, Mark Titchner, Jalal Toufic, Agnès Varda, Ben Vautier, Mark Wallinger, Mark Aerial Waller and Giles Round, Richard Wentworth, Vivienne Westwood, Stephen Willats.

Notes to Editors:

Timings

Manifesto Marathon Day 1: Saturday 18 October, 12 noon – 9pm

Manifesto Marathon Day 2: Sunday 19 October, 10am – 7pm

Park Nights is a programme of events, including Friday night talks, performances, music and film screenings, that runs between July and October in and around the Serpentine Gallery Pavilion, designed by Frank Gehry. For full *Park Nights* listings please visit www.serpentinegallery.org.

Supporter's Message

Through a series of exciting collaborations with prominent experts from the worlds of contemporary lifestyle, fashion, art, architecture, music and literature Kuoni is on an exciting journey to define the 'new culture of travelling'. In October 2008 Kuoni is proud to partner with the Serpentine Gallery's *Manifesto Marathon*. Through its sponsorship of the *Manifesto Marathon*, and the content delivered through it, Kuoni will look to identify new perspectives on the future of travel and develop these into unique and authentic travel experiences.

The Serpentine Gallery Pavilion Commission was conceived by Serpentine Gallery Director and Co-Director of Exhibitions and Programmes, Julia Peyton-Jones, in 2000. It is an ongoing programme of temporary structures by internationally acclaimed architects and individuals. It is unique worldwide and presents the work of an international architect or design team who, at the time of the Serpentine Gallery's invitation, has not completed a building in England. The Pavilion architects to date are: Olafur Eliasson and Kjetil Thorsen, 2007; Rem Koolhaas and Cecil Balmond, with Arup, 2006; Álvaro Siza and Eduardo Souto de Moura with Cecil Balmond, Arup, 2005; MVRDV with Arup, 2004 (un-realised); Oscar Niemeyer, 2003; Toyo Ito with Arup, 2002; Daniel Libeskind with Arup, 2001; and Zaha Hadid, 2000. Each Pavilion is sited on the Gallery's lawn for three months and the immediacy of the process – a maximum of six months from invitation to completion – provides a peerless model for commissioning architecture.

Notes for listings:

- One day ticket: £20/£15; Two day ticket: £35
- Tickets available from Ticketweb, 08700 600 100, www.ticketweb.co.uk.
- Or at the Serpentine Gallery Lobby Desk, 020 7402 6075
- Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 3XA
- Nearest Tube: South Kensington or Lancaster Gate
- Recorded information 020 7298 1515, www.serpentinegallery.org

For more press information, interviews and images, please contact:
Rose Dempsey, 020 7298 1520, rosed@serpentinegallery.org
Fleur Treglown, 020 7298 1528, fleur@serpentinegallery.org