Enthusiasm from Iceland for Little Constellation, inaugurated on May 17

The exhibition Subjective Maps / Disappearances at the National Gallery of Iceland with the opening of the Reykjavik Arts Festival

35 unique artists’ books were created for the occasion by 37 artists from the geo-cultural micro-areas and small states of Europe: a successful co-production between the institutions of San Marino and Iceland with the collaboration of artists, curators and institutions for art and culture of 15 small states of Europe, all members of the Little Constellation Network.

In Reykjavik, at the National Gallery of Iceland, the exhibition Little Constellation - Subjective Maps / Disappearances - contemporary art in geo-political micro-areas and small states of Europe, was inaugurated at the opening of the Reykjavik Arts Festival, held last May 17.

More than seven hundred visitors turned up in the first two days of the exhibition and widespread interest was shown in the event. The exhibition presents 35 unique artists’ books, created for the occasion by 37 artists, and is an interesting co-production between artists, curators and institutions from San Marino and Iceland in collaboration with artists, curators and art and cultural institutions in 15 small states of Europe belonging to the Network of Little Constellation.

Personalities from San Marino who have already visited the exhibition included Hon. Matteo Fiorini Minister for the Territory and Youth Policies of the Republic of San Marino and the Director of the Department of the Territory Nicoletta Corbelli.

"It was wonderful to see the work done by Little Constellation in networking the talent and art of so many citizens of the world, under the name of San Marino," emphasized the Secretary for the Territory and Youth Policies Matteo Fiorini.

"This exhibition is in history, it rereads history, it makes history, and it is remarkable that such an important message should be launched in the heart of the European culture most attentive and open to innovation." The exhibition was presented with this greeting text by the Minister for Education and Culture Giuseppe Maria Morganti, read by the curators to all those present at the opening event.

The personalities present included Hon. Steven Linares Minister for Culture, Sport, Heritage and Youth Policy of Gibraltar, with his staff, including Yvette Zarb Director of Culture; also present were Hakun Jogvanson Djurhuus, Head of Delegation in Iceland and the Faroe Islands, and Lisa Gnaw Baldacchino, representative of the Malta Council for Culture and the Arts.

Thirty curators and artists attended from Andorra, Cyprus, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Iceland, Malta, Montenegro, San Marino, Ticino, Gibraltar, Aland Islands, Faroe Islands, Jersey, Guernsey. This was also an opportunity to meet, study and conduct research. Of fundamental importance were the lectures by Nina Danino, artist and filmmaker, Senior Lecturer in Fine Arts at Goldsmiths College, University of London, Svetlana Racanovic, independent curator of Montenegro and Georgina Portelli Researcher in Psycholinguistics from Malta.

The artists and curators were guests for four days of the Icelandic institutions, as well as attending the two openings of the exhibition (one by invitation and the other for the public with a guided tour conducted by Alessandro Castiglioni), also participated in a day of study and research in order to continue to develop new shared projects with Little Constellation, including / ti'tano /, a project of the Republic of San Marino dedicated to the small states for the Mediterranea: 16th Biennial of Young Artists which will open on June 6, 2013, in Ancona and Little Constellation’s new project, Of Other Places, being developed for Gibraltar-UK in 2014 and 2015.

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Subjective Maps - Disappearances is curated by the director of the National Gallery of Iceland and art historian Halldór Björn Runolfsson, and the curator and art historian Alessandro Castiglioni and by the artist curators and initiators of Little Constellation Rita Canarezza & Pier Paolo Coro.

The exhibition Subjective Maps - Disappearances enjoys the patronage of their Excellencies the Captains Regent, it is supported by the Ministries for Foreign Affairs, Education and Culture, Territory and Youth Policy, Tourism, Health and Social Security - Social and Cultural Activities Office of the Republic of San Marino.


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The National Gallery of Iceland is the most important institution for modern and contemporary art in Iceland. It houses the national collection of art of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, including works by leading artists from Iceland, and an international collection with the presence of artists such as Pablo Picasso, Edvard Munch, Karel Appel, Hans Hartung, Victor Vasarely, Richard Serra and Richard Tuttle, for a total of 10,000 works.

In addition to the seven exhibition halls, deposits and offices, the Gallery has a bookstore, educational spaces for children, schools and adults, a food court and an information centre. The Gallery produces publications, exhibitions, programs, workshops, conferences and presents personal and collective projects by Icelandic and international artists.

http://listasafn.is/

Reykjavik Arts Festival 2013> from 17 May to 2 June

Begun in 1970, the Reykjavik Arts Festival is Iceland’s first cultural festival. It presents a variety of concerts, theatrical performances, exhibitions, dance and opera. In combination with its focus on Icelandic culture, past and present, the festival hosts international and Icelandic artists.


Little Constellation is based in the Republic of San Marino, and is the first international network for contemporary art founded to create and disseminate research projects especially attentive to the present in the small states of Europe: Andorra, Cyprus, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, San Marino, and in certain micro geo-cultural areas of the European Union including: Ticino, Ceuta, Gibraltar, Kaliningrad, Aland Islands, Faroe Islands, Jersey and Guernsey. The network provides an international platform of knowledge, for the dissemination of information, exhibitions, encounters and residencies for artists and to encourage the creation of co-productions and collaborations on new projects involving artists, associations, museums, art centres, public and private institutions and international foundations.

www.littleconstellation.org

For further info:

Little Constellation Network www.littleconstellation.org
National Gallery of Iceland http://www.listasafn.is/?root=1
Reykjavik Arts Festival http://www.listahatid.is/2013/en/vidburdir/subjective-maps-disappearances/