

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
March 1997

EDUCATIONAL PAVILION BY ARTIST RIRKRIT TIRAVANIJA TO BE ERECTED IN THE SCULPTURE GARDEN AS PART OF THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART'S PROJECTS SERIES

Projects: Rirkrit Tiravanija
April 1–June 3, 1997

A site-specific installation by New York-based artist Rirkrit Tiravanija will open in The Museum of Modern Art's Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden on April 1, 1997, as part of the Museum's **Projects** series. On view through June 3, the exhibition consists of a child-sized model of an International Style glass pavilion that will serve as an open-air classroom. When not being used by schoolchildren and families taking part in the Museum's educational programs and hands-on art-making workshops, the space is open to the public.

Measuring 16_ by 28_ by 6_ 2", the pavilion will be built with tempered glass and wood and is loosely based on Philip Johnson's Glass House (1949). It will be located at the east end of the Sculpture Garden, closest to the café. The interior of the house consists of a single room, in which the educational programs will take place (see below). The exhibition is the second in an ongoing series of collaborations between the Museum's curatorial and education departments in the programming of art-making workshops.

"Tiravanija's art is one of empathy, compassion, and hospitality," remarks Laura Hoptman, Assistant Curator, Department of Drawings, who organized the exhibition. "His goal is to transform a public space into a social space of real, convivial interaction between people."

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Internationally known for installation and performance work that modifies and humanizes the institutional nature of exhibition spaces, Tiravanija has transformed white-walled galleries and museums into cafés, lounges, cinematheques, playrooms, and ad hoc concert halls. He participated in the 1993 Venice Biennale, as well as biennials in São Paulo and at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. Most recently, Tiravanija's work has been featured in solo exhibitions at the Kunstverein in Cologne, the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, and Die Appel in Amsterdam.

The **Projects** series is made possible by the Contemporary Exhibition Fund of The Museum of Modern Art, established with gifts from Lily Auchincloss, Agnes Gund and Daniel Shapiro, and Mr. and Mrs. Ronald S. Lauder; and grants from The Contemporary Arts Council and The Junior Associates of The Museum of Modern Art, and Susan G. Jacoby. This exhibition is made possible by funding from the Estate of Mr. and Mrs. Edmund J. Kahn. Additional support is provided by DuPont Flooring Systems.

Family Art Workshops

Saturdays, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
April 19, May 3, May 10, May 17

Open to children ages five to ten and their adult friends. Children will explore works in the Museum galleries before public hours, then create their own art in Tiravanija's outdoor pavilion in The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden.

Admission is \$10 per family, members \$6. Preregistration is required. Register for one session only (each session is the same). Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Enter through the Museum's Edward John Noble Education Center, 18 West 54 Street. Organized by Joyce Raimondo, Family Programs Coordinator, Department of Education.

For further information contact Uri Perrin, Department of Communications, 212/708-9757. Visit our Web site at <http://www.moma.org>.