



ICI announces the premiere of the traveling exhibition **FAX**

FAX invites a multigenerational group of artists, as well as architects, designers, scientists and filmmakers, to conceive of the fax machine as a tool for thinking and drawing.



Guest Curator: João Ribas
Co-organized by The Drawing Center, New York and ICI (Independent Curators International), New York

Premiering at The Drawing Center on April 16, 2009, where it remains on view through July 23, 2009

ICI Tour Dates: September 2009 through August 2012

FAX invites a multigenerational group of artists, as well as architects, designers, scientists and filmmakers, to conceive of the fax machine as a tool for thinking and drawing. Although the technology for transmitting printed images and texts over distance dates from the nineteenth century—a machine by Scottish mechanic Alexander Bain patented in 1843—it was the introduction of the modern fax through commercially available machines in the 1970s that turned facsimiles into a ubiquitous communications medium for international business. Artists readily exploited its immediate, graphic, and interactive character, making it an important part of the history of

telecommunications art, nestled between the legacy of mail art and the nascent practices of new media.

Faxes by nearly 100 artists sent to the initial showing of **FAX** at The Drawing Center will form the core of the exhibition, including seminal examples of early telecommunications art. Each institution on the tour will invite up to twenty additional artists to submit works, which will be presented at all successive venues. These works may be transmitted to each participating institution's working fax line throughout the duration of the exhibition. The active accumulation of information—received in real time, in the exhibition space—will include drawings and texts, and even the inevitable junk faxes from telemarketers and local businesses as well. All the transmitted pages will be archived or

Matt Sheridan Smith, *Untitled (contrast test)* (detail), 2008

displayed together with the active fax machine, which may produce new faxes from invited artists at any moment. The result—an ongoing cumulative project—is a show concerned with ideas of reproduction, obsolescence, distribution, and mediation. Here, reproducible yet erratic production via the fax machine displaces traditional notions of the hand, still commonly associated with the medium of drawing, and foregrounds the role of drawing as a generative process.

The exhibition is curated by João Ribas, curator of The Drawing Center in New York, and is accompanied by an illustrated catalogue co-published by ICI and The Drawing Center.

About the guest curator:

João Ribas is curator at The Drawing Center in New York and an art critic. Among his recent projects are an exhibition of Matt Mullican's work, 2008; *New Economy*, 2007; and *Ryan Gander: Loose Associations*, 2007. He has also created an online platform for experimental film and durational work called *Expanded Cinema*. Ribas teaches at the School of Visual Arts in New York.

Participating artists:

Julieta Aranda	Wineke Gartz	Mai-Thu Perret
John Armleder	Liam Gillick	Michalis Pichler
Roy Ascott	Marisa González	William Pope.L
Tauba Auerbach	Dan Graham	Seth Price
Fia Backström	Joseph Grigely	Blake Rayne
Darren Bader	João Maria Gusmão & Pedro Paiva	Tobias Rehberger
Cecil Balmond	Wade Guyton	Kay Rosen
BANK	Skuta Helgason	Amanda Ross-Ho
Colby Bird	Charline von Heyl	Pamela Rosenkranz
Pierre Bismuth	Matthew Higgs	Arnd Seibert
Barbara Bloom	Eduardo Kac	Matt Sheridan Smith
Mel Bochner	Matt Keegan	Sonia Sheridan
Tobias Buche	Zoe Keramea	Alexandre Singh
Ian Burns	Tom Klinkowstein	Dexter Sinister
Cabinet Magazine	Germaine Kruij	Josh Smith
Etienne Chabaud	Glenn Ligon	Anne Tardos
Cleopatra's	Ronald L. Mallett	Cheyney Thompson
Peter Coffin	Jackson Mac Low	Christian Tomaszewski
Jan De Cock	Corey McCorkle	Wolfgang Tillmans
Collage CenterWest	Josephine Meckseper	Edward Tufte
Liz Deschenes	Eric Mitchell	Stan VanDerBeek
HeHe (Helen Evans & Heiko Hansen)	Simon Dybbroe Møller	Olav Westphalen
Morgan Fisher	Olivier Mosset	Christopher Williams
Claire Fontaine	Warren Neidich	Jack Whitten
Yona Friedman	Kambui Olujimi	Johannes Wohnseifer
Aurélien Froment	Serge Onnen	Cerith Wyn Evans
Ryan Gander	Hans Ulrich Obrist	

Exhibition Itinerary*

The Drawing Center

New York, New York
April 17 – July 23, 2009

Contemporary Museum, Baltimore

Baltimore, Maryland
September 12 – December 20,
2009

Torrance Art Museum

Torrance, California
January 14 – February 20, 2010

Para/Site Art Center

Hong Kong
February 2 – April 1, 2010

Burnaby Art Gallery

Burnaby, British Columbia,
March 16 – May 23, 2010

Dowd Gallery

Cortland, New York
September 2 – October 28, 2010

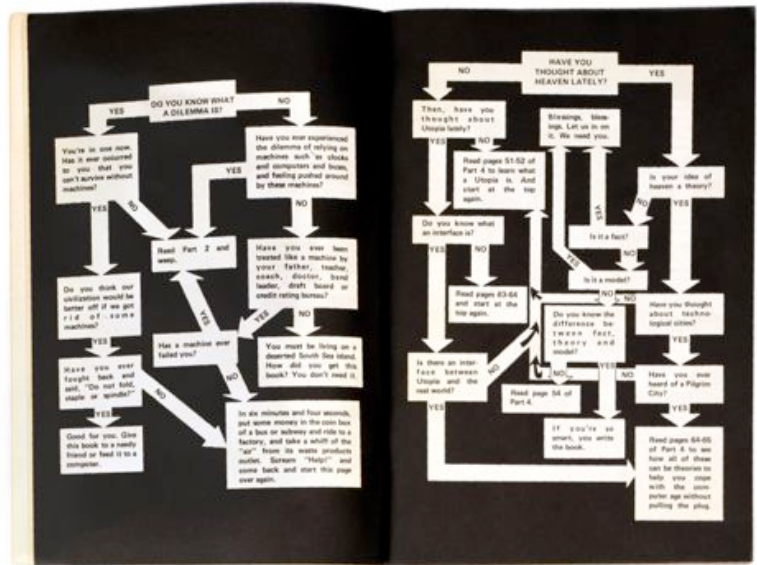
***Additional venues to be announced**

Exhibition Credit Line:

FAX is a traveling exhibition co-organized by The Drawing Center, New York, and ICI (Independent Curators International), New York, and circulated by ICI. The guest curator is João Ribas. The exhibition and the accompanying catalogue were made possible, in part, by members of the Drawing Room, a patron circle founded to support innovative exhibitions in The Drawing Center's project gallery; and by support to ICI from The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, and ICI Benefactor members Agnes Gund, Gerrit and Sydnie Lansing, and Barbara and John Robinson.

About ICI

ICI (Independent Curators International) produces exhibitions, events, publications, and training opportunities for diverse audiences around the world. A catalyst for independent thinking, ICI connects emerging and established curators, artists, and institutions, to forge international networks and generate new forms of collaboration. Working across disciplines and historical precedents, the organization is a hub that provides access to



Peter Coffin, *Untitled*, 2009

the people, ideas, and practices that are key to current developments in the field, inspiring fresh ways of seeing and contextualizing contemporary art.

For additional information or visual materials, contact Michelle Jubin at 212-254-8200 ext. 21 or jubin@ici-exhibitions.org Visit ICI's web site: www.ici-exhibitions.org