

CONTACT
Terri C. Smith, Creative Director
Franklin Street Works
41 Franklin St Stamford, CT 06901
203-253-0404
terri@franklinstreetworks.org

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November 12, 2011

PRESS RELEASE

Franklin Street Works presents *Slipstreams*, a compelling exhibition that explores how contemporary artists shape time

Stamford, CT – The perception, measurement, and manipulation of time in our everyday lives is a performance, both personal and shared. We agree on the indications of clocks and calendars, yet often disagree on the length of collective experiences, such as prayer or a television program. Language also influences how we “feel” a moment’s passage. Phrases such as “running out of time,” “wasting time,” and “on time,” cause us to feel hurried or relaxed, even responsible or irresponsible. Rituals, both societal and self-made, do the same.

Exploring these ideas through contemporary artworks made between 1964 and today, Franklin Street Works presents *Slipstreams: Contemporary Artistic Practice and the Shaping of Time*, curated by Terri C. Smith and Joseph Whitt. This group exhibition features artists who consider how time is shaped and made visible through performed acts, unique measuring systems, and other uncommon means. Artists include: Pierre Bismuth, Tehching Hsieh, Tara Kelton, Anna Lundh, Samuel Rousseau, Stephen Sollins, Conrad Ventur, and Andy Warhol. The exhibition is on view from December 1 – January 21, with an opening reception on Thursday, December 1 from 5:00 – 8:00.

With support by IASPIS, the Swedish Arts Grants Committee's International Programme for Visual Artists, an interactive art project and performance by Anna Lundh will also be part of the exhibition's opening weekend. From 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 2 and from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 3, Lundh will reside in the gallery and ask visitors about how they visualize time as part of her ongoing artwork *The Year is a Python that swallowed an Elephant*. She will give a subtly humorous, 40-minute performance that is informed by that ongoing project on Saturday, December 3 at 4:00 p.m. in the Franklin Street Works downstairs gallery. The exhibition, interactive activities with Lundh, and performance are all free and open to the public.

In *Slipstreams*, a myriad of approaches to time weave throughout Franklin Street Works' three galleries. Performances and documentation address controlled, chronological actions in Tehching Hsieh's *Time Clock Piece* and Anna Lundh's *The Year is a Python that swallowed an Elephant*. Hsieh's work exhibits a brutal attention to discipline and endurance as a way of expressing the isolation of his early years as an “alien immigrant”. Curious about how others visualize time, Lundh mimics the systems and appearances of scientific research in her project, which has included more than 150 test subjects so far. Conrad Ventur and Pierre Bismuth mine pop culture's recent past, including music and film, for source material. Ventur often collapses his images into immersive, hypnotic video installations, while Bismuth juxtaposes scenes from vintage cinema with the drawn line in his *Following the Right Hand of...* series.

The exhibition also includes works that focus on familiar objects, both everyday and iconic. Stephen Sollins alters daily newspaper TV guides with Liquid Paper and permanent markers in his *Static* series so that text is obscured and only the schedule's grid is visible. Samuel Rousseau's minimalist video installation, *Un peu d'éternité (a little eternity)*, uses a candle and endless projection of a flame to convey an endlessness that our minds can grasp only speculatively; while Andy Warhol takes a characteristically deadpan approach with his film *Empire*, placing a camera in front of the Empire State Building and shooting it for 24 hours. Tara Kelton's *Time Travel* also relies on a stationary camera, pairing it with her laptop's lens to see a split second into the future.

Slipstreams aims to allow its audience a unique exploration of multiple ways in which time can be visualized and reconfigured, prompting questions about how we perceive and maintain our inner imaginings of time.

Franklin Street Works is located at 41 Franklin Street in downtown Stamford, Connecticut, near the UCONN campus and less than one hour from New York City via Metro North. Franklin Street Works is approximately one mile (a 15 minute walk) from the Stamford train station. On street parking is available on Franklin Street (metered until 6 pm except on Sunday), and paid parking is available nearby in a lot on Franklin Street and in the Summer Street Garage (100 Summer Street), behind Target. For more information, please visit www.franklinstreetworks.org or visit us on Facebook.

The art space and café are open to the public on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday: 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. with extended hours on Thursdays, 12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Franklin Street Works does not charge for admission during regular gallery hours.

About Franklin Street Works

Franklin Street Works is a new, not-for-profit contemporary art space, café, and social gathering place in Stamford, Connecticut. It produces original on-site and off-site exhibitions, artist projects, and related programming. Located in renovated row houses on Franklin Street, the two-story space includes three galleries and a café. Franklin Street Works embraces innovative art and exhibition practices, a DIY attitude, and a workshop approach to its programming, audiences, and organizational structure. The activities and attitudes of the café reflect and expand on the organization's mission as a contemporary art venue.

About the Curators

Terri C. Smith is the Creative Director of Franklin Street Works. With approximately fifteen years of curatorial experience, she has created exhibitions and related programming for museums and other not-for-profit art institutions, including award-winning contemporary art programs for Cheekwood Museum of Art, Nashville, Tennessee. After more than ten years at the Museum, she returned to school, earning an MA from Bard College's Center for Curatorial Studies in 2008. Smith has curated exhibitions for venues in Connecticut, Florida, New York, Oregon, and Tennessee. Other projects have included commissioned catalog essays and journalistic projects for print and radio. <http://terricsmith.blogspot.com/>

Joseph Whitt is the Assistant Curator at Franklin Street Works and a frequent guest curator at several art venues in New York City. As former Assistant Curator at Vanderbilt University's Fine Arts Gallery in Nashville, he was responsible for solo exhibitions by Harmony Korine and Jules de Balincourt, as well as a group exhibition pairing the Polaroids of Andy Warhol with the works of emerging artists Grant Worth and David Horvitz. His most recent curatorial project, *Magic For Beginners*, at P.P.O.W. Gallery (NYC), was a critic's pick in *Time Out New York* and garnered a prominent review in *The New York Times*.

Anna Lundh's project and performance are sponsored in part by:

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