



KENTLER INTERNATIONAL DRAWING SPACE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Circumstances: Selections from the Kentler Flatfiles
Curated by Holly Shen Chaves and Rachel Nackman

Exhibition Dates: February 8 – March 23, 2014

Opening Reception: Saturday, February 8, 6 – 8 pm

Curators' Talk: Sunday, February 23, 4 pm

Gallery Hours: Open free to the public, Thursday – Sunday, 12:00 – 5:00pm

Kentler International Drawing Space is proud to present *Circumstances: Selections from the Kentler Flatfiles*, curated by Holly Shen Chaves and Rachel Nackman.

The artists featured in *Circumstances* were selected from the Kentler Flatfiles using a chance-based process inspired by John Cage's seminal employment of the *I Ching*, or *Book of Changes*, an ancient Chinese oracular text. When making selections from the Flatfiles, curators Holly Shen Chaves and Rachel Nackman took procedural cues from Cage in consulting the *I Ching* as a guide. Their rejection of curatorial responsibility in favor of a predetermined system allowed the curators to discover, explore, and accept their selections with open objectivity.

A chance-based selection presented a means both to experience the deliberate impartiality of the Cagean method and to highlight the remarkable diversity of works on paper contained in the Kentler Flatfiles, a repository of artwork by over 200 artists. The result of this process is a fascinating exhibition of 43 drawings, prints and artist's books by 32 artists. These fated works bear striking relationships to one another as well as to the concepts of chance and experimentation.

The artists represented in *Circumstances* are: Ernst Benkert, Hedwig Brouckaert, Juan Carlos, Beth Caspar, Osvaldo Ramirez Castillo, Annette Cords, Aaron Drew, Elizabeth Duffy, Rebecca Forster, Abby Goldstein, Molly Heron, John Himmelfarb, Richard Howe, Nene Humphrey, Dragan Ilic, Tamiko Kawata, Kumi Korf, Karen Kunc, Rejin Leys, LUCE, Peter Matthews, Karen Helga Maurstig, Meredith McNeal, Tina Olsen, Debra Pearlman, Mimmo Roselli, Sepideh Salehi, Claudia Sbrissa, Robert Sestok, Terise Slotkin, Thomas Vinton, and Dale Williams.

The curators' working documents and charts are on display in the gallery along with further description of their process. A brochure with a critical essay by Holly Shen Chaves and Rachel Nackman also accompanies the exhibition.

Kentler International Drawing Space is located at 353 Van Brunt Street, Red Hook, Brooklyn. See www.kentlergallery.org for directions. For more information contact Florence Neal, Director, 718.875.2098.

Exhibitions, events and education programs are made possible with public funds from: The New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with City Council; and New York City Council Discretionary Award /NYC Council Member. Other supporters include: Estate 4, Bloomberg Philanthropies; The Fort Trustee Fund, CFCV; Brooklyn Community Foundation; Postindustrial Productions; Fifth Floor Foundation; The Gifford Foundation; Epson America Inc.; Materials for the Arts, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs/NYC Department of Sanitation/ NYC Department of Education and the many valued artists, friends & supporters of the gallery.

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