

**LIAM GILLICK CREATES SCULPTURE AND MURAL FOR *PROJECTS 79* INSTALLATION****First Showing of British Artist's Work by an American Museum*****Projects 79: Liam Gillick, Literally*
September 25–December 1, 2003
MoMA QNS, Long Island City, Queens**

NEW YORK, September 2003—For *Projects 79: Liam Gillick, Literally*, the artist has created a site-specific installation composed of a 127-foot-long mural near the museum entrance and an eight-foot cube suspended from the ceiling of the Museum's lobby. *Literally* is organized by Claudia Schmuckli, former Assistant Curator, Department of the Chief Curator at Large, The Museum of Modern Art, and will be on view at MoMA QNS from September 25 to December 1, 2003.

Literally is the latest adaptation of ideas Gillick developed in his recent publication *Literally No Place* (2002). The installation makes open reference to behaviorist B. F. Skinner's *Walden Two* (1948), a fictionalized outline of a utopian commune in postwar America. Gillick adopts the sentence, "My step was light and I could feel the ball of each foot pushing the earth down from me as I walked," from Skinner as the encapsulation of a moment of revelation about communal life. At MoMA QNS, laser-cut aluminum letters forming these words hover above the viewer. The cube is adjacent to the mural, a diagrammatic rendering of a landscape, whose earthen tones echo those of the letters in the text cube and allude to the commune's desert setting. The artist intends the work to function as a moment of pause when visitors to the Museum can reflect on their own surroundings.

Ms. Schmuckli states, "The primary aesthetic function of Gillick's installations is their playful appropriation and structural redefinition of a given space. But they are also conduits of meaning, props in the staging of abstract ideas. In Gillick's work, text and objects are created in a parallel and open-ended thought process that revolves around the critical investigation of modern societies and that draws liberally from history as well as the utopias envisioned by writers, filmmakers, philosophers, and scientists."

The exhibition is supported by The Junior Associates and The Contemporary Arts Council of The Museum of Modern Art, with additional generous funding from Junior Associate members.

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About the Artist

Liam Gillick was born in Aylesbury, Great Britain, and currently lives and works in London and New York. He was a 2002 Turner Prize finalist. Solo exhibitions include *Communes, bar and greenrooms*, The Powerplant Contemporary Art Gallery, Toronto (2003); *Exterior Days*, Casey Kaplan, New York (2003); and *The Wood Way*, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London (2002). Gillick's work was exhibited at the 2003 Venice Biennale; the group exhibition *What If*, Moderna Museet, Stockholm (2000); and Documenta X (1997). Books include *Literally No Place* (London: Book Works, 2002); *Five or Six* (New York: Lukas & Sternberg, 1999); *Discussion Island/Big Conference Center* (Ludwigsburg: Kunstverein Ludwigsburg, and Derry: Orchard Gallery, 1997); and *Erasmus Is Late* (London: Book Works, 1995). Mr. Gillick holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts with Honors from Goldsmiths College, University of London. He has taught at Columbia University, New York, since 1997.

About the Curator

Claudia Schmuckli is an independent curator and former Assistant Curator, Department of the Chief Curator at Large, The Museum of Modern Art, from 2002 to 2003. She joined MoMA in 1999 as Curatorial Assistant to the Chief Curator at Large and is a recipient of the Lee Tannenbaum Award. Prior to joining MoMA, Ms. Schmuckli was Curatorial Assistant, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, from 1997 to 1999. She holds an M.A. in Art History from Ludwigs-Maximilians-Universität, Munich. For MoMA, Ms. Schmuckli was the curatorial assistant for *Matisse Picasso* (2003) and was a co-curator of *Projects 73: Olafur Eliasson—Seeing yourself sensing* (2001) and Garden Hall installations by Teresita Fernandez and Ernesto Neto, part of *Open Ends*, the third cycle of **MoMA 2000** (2000). She was also a member of the Curatorial Selection Committee of *Greater New York* (P.S.1, 2000) and was a curatorial assistant for *ModernStarts*, the first cycle of **MoMA 2000** (1999).

About the Projects Series

Created in 1971 as a forum for emerging artists and new art, the Projects series has played a vital part in MoMA's contemporary art programs. With exhibitions organized by curators from all of the Museum's curatorial departments, the series has presented the work of close to 200 artists to date. The Projects series is coordinated by Laurence Kardish, Senior Curator, Department of Film and Media. For further information on the series, including a listing of all Projects artists, please visit www.moma.org/projects.

No. 65

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