FRANSJE KILLAARS
Color at the Center

Exhibition Proposal

Curated by Dan Mills, Director
Samek Art Gallery, Bucknell University
Organized by the Samek Art Gallery
Catalogue, with essay by Joseph Mella, Director
Vanderbilt University Fine Arts Gallery

Figures, 2008, Stedelijk Museum Schiedam, April - June 2008
The Samek Art Gallery seeks two to three institutions to participate in this important exhibition. Fees will be used to defray international shipping costs and produce the exhibition catalogue.

**FRANSJE KILLAARS**

**Color at the Center**

*Fransje Killaars: Color at the Center,* will introduce this Amsterdam-based artist to a North American audience through a traveling exhibition drawn from a selection of recent installations. “I am fascinated and deeply affected by the power and effect of color,” writes artist Fransje Killaars (b. 1959, Maastricht, The Netherlands). As noted by curator Susan Cross for Killaars’ installation at MASS MoCA (Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art), “merging painting, architecture, and fashion, Killaars’ work mixes references from a range of cultures— with fabrics from Japan, acrylic blankets designed by the artist and handwoven in India, and draped figures reminiscent of Burk-clad women and Greek caryatides. Re-contextualizing objects as familiar as a bedspread, Killaars imbues the material with surprising new meaning.” Killaars is a remarkable colorist that approaches her medium—textiles—in challenging and innovative ways that are as much cultural statements as they are vigorously conceptual.
Trained at the Rijksakademie in Amsterdam, Killaars began her career as a painter. Influenced by the works of Barnett Newman, Ellsworth Kelly, and Henri Matisse, Killaars is a Dutch artist with a recognizable, yet singular Dutch aesthetic. In 1984, the year she left art school, she became a studio assistant for the internationally recognized painter and sculptor, Sol Lewitt—another artist that left a lasting impression on Killaars. In 1990, just as Killaars was establishing a strong career as a painter in the Netherlands, she traveled to India on the advice of a friend, the first of a number of trips there that influenced her practice in profound ways. “Everything in this chaotic world [India] is colourful—the street is one huge overwhelming palette... through India I discovered the power of colour as a part of everyday life. I felt that it could be different, that you could live in those colours...”

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Killaars’ work, which has been exhibited extensively in Holland—as well as France, Germany, and Japan—is included in numerous museum collections including the Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam. The artist has been commissioned to design spaces for both private homes and public venues, including the receiving room where the Dutch Prime Minister greets international visitors.
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Exhibition Specifications:

*Fransje Killaars: Color at the Center* will include five installations:
Title, date, height x width x depth (in meters)

24 Hours, 2005, ca. 2 x 5.40 x 1.80 m
Figure and Crosses, 2007, ca. 2.5 x 2.5 x 0.5 m
Map, 2007/2008, ca. 4 x 4 m
Figures, 2008, ca. 3.10 x 12.66 x 3.10 x 3.5 m
Schelterdresses, 2009, variable

Participating venues will bring Killaars to their institution to install her work with students and/or community artists/artisans, and to present a public lecture.

Bringing Killaars to your institution as a visiting artist is an integral part of the exhibition.

Space Requirements:
2500 or more square feet.

Security:
Medium; attendants must be present at all times. A certificate of insurance will be required.

Catalogue:
Fully illustrated, with an essay by Joseph Mella, introduction by Dan Mills, and statement by the artist. Each venue will receive 50 catalogues, and may purchase additional at a reduced rate.

Fees:
$4000, + one way domestic shipping via fine art movers (or your museum/gallery staff), insurance while at your institution and during transit to the next, for 8 weeks (venues interested in extending the exhibition may due so on a pro-rated basis).
Travel expenses, room and board, honorarium for Killaars.

For more information on the exhibition, and to request a Powerpoint with many images of Killaar’s work, contact Dan Mills, Director, Samek Art Gallery, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA 17837.
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570.577.3213
[http://www.bucknell.edu/Samek.xml](http://www.bucknell.edu/Samek.xml)
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October 30 - December 8, 2009
Samek Art Gallery, Bucknell University
January 15 - March 14, 2010
Available
March 26 - May 12, 2010
Available
Summer, 2010
Available
August 20 - October 10, 2010
Available
November 1 - December, 2010
Available
January 15 - March 14, 2011
Available
March 26 - May 12, 2010
Available
(subjct to revision on a first come first served basis)