

Media Information
December 14th, 2016

MINI/Goethe-Institute awards 2017 residency at Ludlow 38 to curator Saim Demircan.

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New York. The BMW Group is pleased to announce that Saim Demircan has been awarded the 2017 curatorial residency within its MINI/Goethe-Institut Curatorial Residencies Ludlow 38 program. Demircan has been living and working as a curator and writer in Germany since 2012.

The curatorial residency, which includes a grant and the mandate to program the residency's Lower East Side art space for a year, was awarded by an international jury composed by Larissa Harris (Queens Museum of Art), Christian Rattemeyer (Museum of Modern Art), and Nicolaus Schafhausen (Kunsthalle Wien). Demircan's enthusiasm for the annals of 20th century art in combination with an exquisite sensibility for emerging artistic positions across media and disciplines encouraged the jury to a decidedly European choice. Demircan will begin his program in February with the first US exhibition of collaborative duo New Noveta, which will extend their performative practice into the art space through photographic images, sound, and costumes, and also feature the debut of a new performance. Together with German artist Veit Laurent Kurz, Demircan will co-curate a group exhibition of New York-based and European artists within a new installational setting devised by Kurz especially for Ludlow 38, opening in the spring. London-based artist Sidsel Meineche Hansen will use the art space during the summer to prepare her first US solo exhibition there in the fall, including a new production and series of related events.

Saim Demircan (born 1980, Derby, UK) is a curator and writer based in Berlin. Between 2012 and 2015 he was a curator at Kunstverein München. Previously, he curated a two-year program of offsite projects, as well as an exhibition of works by German artist Kai Althoff, at Focal Point Gallery in Southend-on-Sea. Most recently, he was curator-in-residence at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich.

Ludlow 38 is the Goethe-Institut New York's space for contemporary art. Located on Manhattan's Lower East Side, it has been a site for curatorial experiments in the tradition of the German "Kunstverein" since 2008. With the launch of MINI/Goethe-Institut Curatorial Residencies Ludlow 38 in 2011, exhibitions are now presented in collaboration with annually rotating curatorial residents from Germany. This project is supported by MINI and as such part of BMW Group Cultural Commitment. With hundreds of projects worldwide, BMW Cultural Commitment has been an integral part of corporate communications for almost 50 years. In its cultural commitment, BMW Group focuses on modern and contemporary art, classical music and jazz as well as architecture and design. In all projects supported by BMW Group, absolute artistic freedom is paramount as it is key for unlocking creative potential – in pioneering works of art as much as in major innovations of a successful corporation. MINI is partner for numerous cultural institutions, art and design fairs and festivals worldwide. As such, MINI cooperates with Salone del Mobile in Milan and the London Design Festival.

Company
Bayerische
Motoren Werke
Aktiengesellschaft

Postal Address
BMW AG
80788 München

Telephone
+49-89-382-20067

Internet
www.bmwgroup.com

For further details regarding the programme, please visit: <http://www.ludlow38.org/>

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For further questions please contact:

Dr Thomas Girst
BMW Group Corporate and Intergovernmental Affairs
Head of Cultural Engagement
Telephone: +49-89-382-24753

Stefanie Jennes
BMW Group Corporate and Intergovernmental Affairs
Cultural Engagement
Telephone: +49-89-382-30804

Mariella Kapsaskis
MINI USA Communications Manager
BMW of North America
Telephone: 001 201-930-3166

www.press.bmwgroup.com
Email: presse@bmw.de

About BMW Group's Cultural Commitment

For almost 50 years now, the BMW Group has initiated and engaged in over 100 cultural cooperations worldwide. The company places the main focus of its long-term commitment on contemporary and modern art, classical music and jazz as well as architecture and design. In 1972, three large-scale paintings were created by the artist Gerhard Richter specifically for the foyer of the BMW Group's Munich headquarters. Since then, artists such as Andy Warhol, Jeff Koons, Daniel Barenboim, Jonas Kaufmann and architect Zaha Hadid have co-operated with BMW. Currently, female artist Cao Fei from China and American John Baldessari are creating the next two vehicles for the BMW Art Car Collection. Besides co-initiatives, such as BMW Tate Live, the BMW Art Journey and the "Opera for All" concerts in Berlin, Munich and London, the company also partners with leading museums and art fairs as well as orchestras and opera houses around the world. The BMW Group takes absolute creative freedom in all its cultural activities – as this initiative is as essential for producing groundbreaking artistic work as it is for major innovations in a successful business.

Further information: www.bmwgroup.com/culture and www.bmwgroup.com/culture/overview

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The BMW Group

With its three brands BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 31 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2015, the BMW Group sold approximately 2.247 million cars and nearly 137,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax for the financial year 2015 was approximately € 9.22 billion on revenues amounting to € 92.18 billion. As of 31 December 2015, the BMW Group had a workforce of 122,244 employees. The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy.

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