



Yona Friedman, *Spatial City*, 1959-2019

Museum Without Building **A Project by Yona Friedman**

Organized by Sylvie Boulanger, Nicholas Vargelis, Dylan Gauthier

On View: August 28–September 8, 2019

Opening Reception: Wednesday, August 28, 6:00–8:00 PM

Artists: Fanny Allié, Laetitia Badaut Haussmann, Théodora Barat, A Constructed World with Stephanie Lin, Pradeep Dalal, Yona Friedman, Richard Jochum, Dana Levy, Flora Moscovici, MDR (Maria D. Rapicavoli), Dannielle Tegeder with Christian Lynch, Nicholas Vargelis.

A production of EFA Project Space in collaboration with cneai= (Paris-Pantin) and Le Petit Versailles.

EFA Project Space, 323 West 39th Street, 2nd Floor, NYC, between 8th and 9th Avenues

Hours: Wed.–Sat., 12–6 PM | www.projectspace-efanyc.org | projectspace@efanyc.org | 212-563-5855

Best known for his concepts of mobility and improvisation in architecture, Yona Friedman's works inherently support practicability and flexibility, two attributes that seem increasingly important in response to the current ecological crisis. Friedman's projects promote reuse and salvage, discarding the one-upmanship of contemporary architecture, and protecting the human need for housing from becoming a simple matter of economics.

"Starting in the late 1950's, I had the idea of making a 'mobile architecture.' It was important that the inhabitant and user could be able to design their own living quarters by themselves. This [architectural] program involved a technique which allowed one to easily move all parts of the structure (walls, ceilings, floors) into any position, as simple as moving furniture." ~ Yona Friedman, *Biosphere*, 2018

Museum Without Building is a collaborative and itinerant proposal for an exhibition based on Friedman's work. Installed and activated at sites across New York City this summer, for 10 days it will be hosted as a project within the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts Project Space. *Museum Without Building* envisions the construction of an open format architectural structure that invites in artwork, performances, dinners, workshops and research in response to Friedman's text, "*Biosphere*" which reflects on the need to build less, to improvise more with what we already have, and stands in opposition to the monolithic and egomaniacal architectural tendencies that we currently face in global urban centers.

For *Museum Without Building*, we have invited in 11 artists whose work displays a natural affinity with the themes and techniques inherent to Friedman's oeuvre to make or share work in response to the *Biosphere* text along with an assemblage of work by Friedman himself. The invited artists reside and work in Paris (invited by the cneai=) or are in residence as members of the EFA Studios Program.

As part of the overarching public art event dedicated to Friedman's work, earlier in the summer, during the course of a public workshop at AiA Center for Architecture, the public constructed several Museum Without Buildings following Friedman's plans out of multicolored hula hoops. These modules function as "stages" for a living artistic ecosystem, and a ground onto which we might hang, etch, project, and develop new modes of living and being — if only for a time.

A new publication of Yona Friedman's text *Biosphere* will be available for purchase at the exhibition opening and available thereafter through the EFA Project Space website.

Sylvie Boulanger: "Proponent of disciplined anarchy and utopian realism, Yona Friedman's work is situated outside of traditional disciplinary boundaries. Architect, artist, sociologist, anthropologist: Friedman develops an applied research into ways of inhabiting the Earth. Rich in paradoxes beneath an apparent simplicity, Friedman's concepts of the *ville spatiale* (the spatial city) and *architecture mobile* (mobile architecture) don't propose so much a model for society as a process for autonomy. Refusing any specific ideology, Yona Friedman's work is defined by humor and relevance which offers a context for his broader thought. The right to understand and the right to interpret according to one's own experience are passwords that underlie a holistic and systemic but above all political philosophy."

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Yona Friedman is an architect, artist, philosopher, sociologist and anthropologist who lives in Paris. He has taught at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge University, Harvard University, the University of California, the University of Michigan, Princeton University.

Fanny Allié was born in Montpellier, South of France. She graduated from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de la Photographie (The National School of Photography) in Arles, France in 2005 and moved to New York City shortly after graduating. Princeton University, DOT Art, A.I.R Gallery, New York City Department of Parks & Recreation, Fresh Window gallery, Chashama and St Eustache Church in Paris, France have organized solo exhibitions of her work. NYU/Gallatin Gallery, Dorsky Gallery, Freight + Volume, Field Projects, BRIC Rotunda Gallery, Dekalb Gallery/Pratt Institute and The Bronx Museum among others have featured her work in group exhibitions. Her work has appeared in the New York Times, NY Magazine, Brooklyn Magazine, Hyperallergic, Le Monde Diplomatique, DNA Info, Marie Claire Italy and Artspace Magazine.

The references and materials employed by **Laëtitia Badaut Haussmann** attest to a profound inclination towards a modernist aesthetic without, however, becoming the subject. She carries out research involving several fields including history, sociology and psychology, driven by a reflection on forms of narrative, the relationship of analogies and macrostructures. Her work is often based on contemporary design, and frequently references cinema, literature, history, and architecture.

Theodora Barat, born in 1985. Lives and works in Pantin, France. She studied in Nantes School of Art, before entering Le Fresnoy - Studio national des arts contemporains. Her artistic approach appears as a field where film and installation meld. Her work has been shown at Nuit Blanche (Paris), La Friche la Belle de Mai (Marseille), Mains d'Œuvres (Saint-Ouen), Glassbox (Paris), La Fabrique (Toulouse), Contemporary Art Center (Vilnius, Lithuania), or LABoral (Gijón, Spain); and in video programs at Palais de Tokyo (Paris), Centre Pompidou (Paris), Villa Medici (Rome) as well as in several international film festivals. She just finished a film and a series of installations dealing with New Jersey, as the laboratory of Modernity. It has been the winner of the Audi talents award. She is currently working on a new film project in the Four Corners area.

A Constructed World (founded Melbourne 1993) have made a polyvalent practice for more than twenty-five years. Characterized by a number of ongoing projects, including Explaining contemporary art to live eels, (2004-2018) and their performances with many guests, including artists, writers, art historians, scientists, philosophers, musicians, non-musicians and non-performers, that challenge conventional structures, maintaining an interrogative attitude to topics, materials and how meaning accumulates.

A Constructed World have been commissioned to present retrospective and survey exhibitions for a number of institutions, and these include A Dangerous Critical Present, Museum of Contemporary Art, Villa Croce, Genova (2014); Based on a true story, Ian Potter Museum of Art, the University of Melbourne (2012); Increase Your Uncertainty, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne (2007); and Saisons Increase, CAPC Museum of Contemporary Art, Bordeaux (2008). **Stephanie Lin** (b. 1985, Vancouver) is an architectural designer based in Brooklyn who engages in speculative and built projects through open-ended mediums. Her work aims to expose the complexities of materials and structures that can lead to alternative spatial organizations and perceptions. She received her Master of Architecture from Harvard University and her BA in Architecture from UC Berkeley. Stephanie is a founding member of Office III, a design collective that was a finalist in the 2017 MoMA PS1 Young Architects Program. Her work has been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art (New York), Storefront for Art and Architecture (New York), and the A+D Architecture and Design Museum (Los Angeles). She has taught architecture studios at UC Berkeley, The Cooper Union, Pratt Institute, and Columbia University.

Pradeep Dalal is Mumbai-born artist based in New York. His solo show was recently at Sala Diaz in San Antonio. His work has been exhibited at Callicoon Fine Arts, Higher Pictures, International Center of Photography, Murray Guy, New York Public Library, Orchard, ps122, and sepiaEYE in New York, the Miami-Dade County Library, Aljira in Newark, Tart Gallery in San Francisco and the Fine Arts Gallery at San Francisco State University, Franklin Street Works in Stamford, Blackpearl Gallery and the Sumner School Museum in Washington, DC, and internationally at Galerie Dubois in Paris, Galeria Arroyo de la Plata in Mexico, Chatterjee and Lal in Mumbai, Vadhera Gallery in New Delhi and Galleria de Arte in Havana, among others. His photographs were included in TAKE on Art, BOMB, Grey Room, Blind Spot, Cabinet, and Rethinking Marxism. His artist book "Bhopal, MP" was

excerpted in the book "Chandigarh is in India," and his essay "A Bifocal Frame of Reference" was published in "Western Artists and India." He is the co-chair of the Photography MFA at Bard College and directs the Andy Warhol Foundation's Arts Writers Grant Program. He holds an MFA from ICP/Bard College and a MArch from MIT.

Richard Jochum is a media artist with a strong focus on video, public art, and installation. He is a studio member at the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts and an associate professor of Art and Art Education at Teachers College, Columbia University. He received his PhD in Philosophy from the University of Vienna (Austria) and an MFA in Sculpture and Media Art from the University of Applied Arts in Vienna (Austria). He has had more than 200 exhibitions and screenings worldwide and is represented by Gallery Bundo in South-Korea. Recent solo exhibitions include Brooklyn Art Cluster Gallery (Brooklyn, 2018), Kiesler Foundation (Austria, 2018), Gallery Bundo (South Korea, 2018), and Macy Gallery (New York, 2018). Recent public art projects include the sculpture park Hollufgaard (Denmark, 2017) and the Land Art Biennial Mongolia (2018).

Dana Levy was born in Tel Aviv Israel and lives and works in New York. She earned her MA in Electronic Imaging at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art Dundee, Scotland and her BA from University of the Arts London: Camberwell College of Arts. Her work has been screened at Tate London, Tribeca Film Festival, Oberhausen Film Festival, Rotterdam Film Festival Wexner Center of Art. Group shows include at The Israel Museum, The Tel Aviv Museum, Harn Museum of Art, Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland, Neuberger Museum Of Art, The Bass Museum, Kadist Gallery, C24 gallery, Johannes Vogt Gallery, Invisible Exports Gallery, Screen City Biennial Stavanger, Biennial of Contemporary Art of Cartagena and in the EVA International Biennial Ireland.

Flora Moscovici approaches painting using the extremely varied possibilities of the medium, including its contours. Her interventions change the perception of space and call up other temporalities: pictorial gesture, site memory and history of painting between the sacred and the vernacular. She is graduated from Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Arts de Paris Cergy. Flora Moscovici's works have been shown in many art centers and galleries in France, Europe and Canada. She exhibited recently in Romania at Fundatia Triade and in France at Villa Arson, Fiche Belle de Mai, 40mcube, Voyage à Nantes, Creux de l'enfer, Galerie de Multiples, etc. She will show her work soon in Dundee Contemporary Art in Scotland.

MDR (Maria D. Rapicavoli) was born in Catania (Italy) and lives and works in New York. She was a fellow in the Whitney Independent Study Program in 2012 and she received her Master In Fine Arts from Goldsmiths University of London in 2005. In 2001 she received her B.A. from the Academy of Fine Arts in Catania. In 2015 she won the AIRspace residency program at the Abrons Arts Center in New York. She was a 2014 resident at the International Study and Curatorial Program in Brooklyn and a 2013 resident at the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Swing Space Residency Program in NY. She has exhibited in several group shows including at Whitechapel Gallery, London; Yerba Buena Center For The Arts, San Francisco; Parsons New School, New York; Museo di Villa Croce, Genoa; Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin; Museo di Villa Croce, Genova (Italy); Palazzo Reale, Milan; Guest Projects, London; Riso, Museum for Contemporary Art, Palermo, Italy; Strozziina, Fondazione Palazzo Strozzi, Florence; Sala Rekalde Bilbao; Italian Cultural Institute London and New York.

Dannielle Tegeder received MFA in Painting and Drawing from The School of The Art Institute of Chicago. For the past ten years, Tegeder's work has explored abstraction and architecture. While the core of her work is paintings and drawings, she also creates large-scale installation, and sculptural objects. Since receiving her MFA in 1997 from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Tegeder's work has been presented in over 100 gallery exhibitions, both nationally and internationally in Paris, Houston, Los Angeles, Berlin, Chicago, and New York. Tegeder has participated in numerous institution exhibitions including PS1/MOMA, The New Museum, The Brooklyn Museum of Art in New York, and Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago. Several of her drawings have been purchased as part of the Contemporary Drawing Collection at the Museum of Modern Art. Tegeder is a recipient of several residencies and grants including The Yaddo Foundation, The Triangle Foundation

Residency and Workshop, Elizabeth Foundation in New York, The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Studio Residency at Governor's Island, Smack Mellon Studios and Artist Stipend, The Pollock-Krasner Foundation, Lower East Side Print Fellowship Edition Award, National Studio Program, P.S.1/MOMA Affiliate, Clocktower, New York, NY, ART OMI, Omi International Arts Center, Omi, NY, Henry Street Settlement Studio Fellowship, NY, The Marie Walsh Sharpe Studio Fellowship, NY, and Percent for Art, New York. **Christian Benavides Lynch**, is from Los Angeles, California, where he lived until entering the College of Environmental Design at the University of California, Berkeley. Graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture in 1990, he worked for the office of Stanley Saitowitz, before returning to Los Angeles to accept a position with Franklin D. Israel Design Associates. In 1991 Christian moved to New York City to begin his graduate work at Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. After receiving his Master of Architecture degree in 1994, Lynch traveled to Brazil on a Kinne Fellowship to study the work of Oscar Niemeyer. Upon his return to New York, Lynch resumed work at Smith-Miller + Hawkinson Architects, remaining there for almost four years. Christian went on to become an Associate at Architecture Project LLP where he remained until devoting himself full-time as a founding Partner at **Lynch Eisinger Design Architects**. Christian Lynch is a registered architect in the State of New York, a member of the American Institute of Architects, the Society of American Registered Architects and the Latino Alumni Association of Columbia University. He is currently an Adjunct Associate Professor w/ CCE at Pratt Institute School of Architecture. Project created with support by the **Pratt Institute School of Architecture** with contributions by the following students: Alison Yoo, Devin Dzierba, Marley Olson, Rachel Bouraad, Beatriz Morum de Santa, Dayoon Oh, Peiye Yang + Hamza Hamdeh, Aryton Lilles + Cal McAullife, Graham Rose + Raymond Assis, Crystal Chen + Suvian Tan, Pintian (Ray) Liu, Sabrina Tedino + Serra Ozdemir, Adriana Hinojosa + Susana Chinchila, Li Jin, Haohan Tang and Guixian Zhang, with additional models provided by Lynch Eisinger Design Architects.

Nicholas Vargelis work combines various contemporary practices — social organisation, technological development, narrative histories, the iconography of forms (such as the history of the light bulb), with the artist as trickster or "situation inventor" who alters contexts to provoke different orders of thought. Nicholas' practice is often collaborative and is, above all, influenced by a social network of artists, writers, architects and other thinkers.

ABOUT THE CURATORS

Sylvie Boulanger is an exhibition curator, publisher and searcher in the field of contemporary art. She is head of the National Art Image Publishing Center (cneai) since 1997. She develops programs of exhibition, research, residency, editorials and a collection of artists' publications (FMRA collection)

Dylan Gauthier is Director of the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts Project Space, a 501c3 non-profit gallery devoted to experimental practices in the visual arts. For the past decade, Gauthier has straddled the line between artist, curator, and community organizer. Employing sound, performance, video, sculpture, and photography, Gauthier works through a research-based and collaborative practice centered on ecology, architecture, landscape, and social change.

In addition to working as an artist **Nicholas Vargelis** also works as a curator and program manager for Le Petit Versailles: focusing on social and environmental issues, taking into consideration the site specific nature of the garden itself.

A COPRODUCTION OF EFA PROJECT SPACE WITH CNEAI= & LE PETIT VERSAILLES

The **Cneai** is a national center for contemporary art which for twenty years has been inviting both emerging and renowned artists whose art engages with societal issues. Their works reflect their sensitivity to all areas of human activity. Committed to the creation of communities, the Cneai fosters the financial and cultural empowerment of artists within the framework of collaborative and interdisciplinary practices: publishing, graphic design, digital creation, social work, writing, music, production, etc. The Cneai is committed to the promotion of culture beyond the market and the

development of new models for production and transmission of artistic forms, particularly those that disrupt established categories. It reaches out to all audiences at every stage of the creative process (from meeting with artists to exhibitions). <http://www.cneai.com/>

Le Petit Versailles is a public garden from the New York City Parks Dept. and GreenThumb, created in 1996 and cared for by Allied Productions Inc. (a non-profit organization focusing on artistic creation since 1981). This garden measuring 7 x 22 meters opens onto Houston Street and Second Street, was created on the site of a former auto-body chop shop. A stage is prominently placed in the center of the garden forming a space where artists come to produce and expose their works. The garden also hosts a rich program with a wide range of artistic disciplines focusing on the environment, social and progressive questions and also take into account the site-specific nature of the garden.

<http://alliedproductions.org/le-petit-versailles/>

EFA Project Space, launched in September 2008 as a program of The Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, is a collaborative, cross-disciplinary arts venue founded on the belief that art is directly connected to the individuals who produce it, the communities that arise because of it, and to everyday life; and that by providing an arena for exploring these connections, we empower artists to forge new partnerships and encourage the expansion of ideas. www.projectspace-efanyc.org

MUSEUM WITHOUT BUILDING continues throughout the summer in New York City:

Le Petit Versailles - from June 23 to September 15
346 East Houston Street, 247 E 2nd St, Manhattan

www.alliedproductions.org/le-petit-versailles

Emily Harvey Foundation - September 5
537 Broadway #2, Manhattan

<http://www.emilyharveyfoundation.org>

MUSEUM WITHOUT BUILDING PARTNERS

CNEAI = National Center Edition Art Image (Paris-Pantin, France)

www.cneai.com

Le Petit Versailles – Allied Productions Inc. (New York, United States)

www.alliedproductions.org

Center for Architecture – AIA (New York, United States)

www.centerforarchitecture.org

Emily Harvey Foundation (New York, United States)

www.emilyharveyfoundation.org

Institut Français, ministère des affaires étrangères, dispositif IF Incontournable (France)

www.institutfrancais.com

Cultural Services of the French Embassy

www.frenchculture.org

New York City Department of Cultural Affairs (New York, United States)

www.1.nyc.gov/site/dcla New York State Council on the Arts (New York, United States)

Green Thumb / New York City Department of Parks (New York, United States)

www.greenthumb.nycgovparks.org

Materials for the Arts (New York, United States)

www.nyc.gov/html/dcla/mfta

Office of the City Councilwoman Carlina Rivera (New York, United States)

www.carlinarivera.nyc

NYS Regional Economic Development Council (New York, United States)

www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov

CURATORS CONTACT

SYLVIE BOULANGER : direction@cneai.com / www.cneai.com

DYLAN GAUTHIER: dylan@efanyc.org / <https://efaproject.space>

NICHOLAS VARGELIS : nvargelis@gmail.com / <http://vargelis.com/>

PRESS INQUIRIES

Dylan Gauthier, Director

EFA Project Space Program

[212-563-5855](tel:212-563-5855) x 229 / dylan@efanyc.org

ACCESSIBILITY

EFA Project Space is located at 323 W. 39th Street, 2nd Floor, between 8th and 9th Avenues, in Manhattan. The building is wheelchair accessible, entrance at sidewalk level (no steps), with two accessible elevators in the lobby. Guests are asked to sign in at the main desk in the lobby, but no ID is required for entry. Nearest accessible subway station is 42nd Street/Port Authority, 1 block north on 8th Avenue.

The Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts (EFA) is a 501(c)(3) public charity. Through its three core programs, EFA Studios, EFA Project Space, and EFA Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop, EFA is dedicated to providing artists across all disciplines with space, tools and a cooperative forum for the development of individual practice. EFA is a catalyst for cultural growth, stimulating new interactions between artists, creative communities, and the public. www.efanyc.org EFA Project Space is supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and additional funding from The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

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323 West 39th Street, New York City, 10018

212-563-5855 x 244 | projectspace@efanyc.org

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