

**October 2004  
For Immediate Release**

***Monument to Now***

**An exhibition organized by the DESTE Foundation as an official part of "ATHENS 2004, Culture".**

**On view: 22 June - 31 December 2004**

The exhibition *Monument to Now* continues successfully in the two exhibition spaces of the Deste Foundation, in Nea Ionia, a building specially renovated for the occasion, and at the Foundation's permanent space in Neo Psychico.

This exhibition of global trends in contemporary art, presented in Athens within the Visual Arts section of "ATHENS 2004 Culture" opened for the public on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2004 and will remain open until the end of the year.

Starting from October 14th and until the end of the exhibition, guided tours for the public will take place in the Nea Ionia venue every Thursday (19:00-20:00) and every Saturday (13:00-14:00).

"ATHENS 2004, Culture" is the official Cultural Programme of the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games. Accessible to all audiences, it aims to transfer the Olympic Experience beyond the Competition Venues.

The works in the exhibition have been drawn from the Dakis Joannou Collection, one of the leading collections of new international art.

The Dakis Joannou Collection has been particularly active during the past several years and since its last presentation in the exhibition *Everything That's Interesting Is New* at The Factory in Athens in 1996, has added many major new works that reflect these trends. The 2004 exhibition presents new acquisitions and emphasizes a new group of artists.

An influential group of curators has been assembled to organize the exhibition and edit the accompanying book. The group includes Dan Cameron, Senior Curator of the New Museum of Contemporary Art and Curator of the 2003 Istanbul Biennial; Alison M. Gingeras, Curator at the Musée National d' Art Moderne, Centre Pompidou; Massimiliano Gioni, Curator of The Zone, a section of the 2003 Venice Biennial and Curator of the 2004 Manifesta; Nancy Spector, Curator of Contemporary Art at the Guggenheim Museum; and Jeffrey Deitch, who has worked with the Deste Foundation on numerous exhibition projects including *Artificial Nature* and *Post Human*. Marina Fokidis, commissioner of the Greek Pavilion in the 50<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennial, has acted in the role of project-coordinator and curator of special projects.

The exhibition features outstanding new works by some of the leading artists who have emerged since the last major Athens exhibition of the Dakis Joannou Collection in 1996. The artists, many of whom are represented by ambitious installations and large groups of works include: Franz Ackermann, Maurizio Cattelan, Rineke Dijkstra, Olafur Eliasson, Urs Fischer, Liza Lou, Mariko Mori, Tim Noble and Sue Webster, Chris Ofili, Matthew Ritchie, Tom Sachs, Gregor Schneider, Kara Walker and Nari Ward.

The exhibition also features new acquisitions of major works by Robert Gober, Jeff Koons, Charles Ray, Christopher Wool and other artists to whom the Dakis Joannou Collection has been committed since the 1980s.

The exhibition catalogue is available in both exhibition venues, as well as major bookstores in Athens and selected bookstores worldwide.

**Catalogue distribution:**

North America through D.A.P./Distributed Art Publishers, [www.artbook.com](http://www.artbook.com)

Outside the United States and Canada by Thames & Hudson Ltd, London (+44 (0) 207 845 5000)

**Monument to Now is sponsored by Heineken. The communication sponsor is ERT, the national television channel.**

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**Exhibition Spaces:**

**DESTE - Nea Ionia**

E. Pappa & Filellinon Street,

Nea Ionia, Athens 142 43, Greece.

Opening hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 12:00 - 20:00

Sunday and Monday closed

**DESTE Foundation for Contemporary Art**

8 Omirou Street, Athens 154 51, Greece

Opening hours: Monday - Friday, 10:00 - 18:00

Saturday, 12:00 - 16:00 Sunday closed

**Guided Tours:**

**DESTE - Nea Ionia**

E. Pappa & Filellinon Street, Nea Ionia, Athens

Thursdays: 19:00- 20:00

Saturdays: 13:00-14:00