



INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART  
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**NEWS RELEASE**



top: *Kiosk (VI) Manifesta 4*, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt/Main (May 24-August 25, 2002), Installation: Stefan Wieland & Christoph Keller. Photo: Baumann

## BEYOND KIOSK

JANUARY 18–MARCH 30, 2008

OPENING RECEPTION: THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 6-8PM

EXHIBITION WALKTHROUGH WITH CHRISTOPH KELLER AND CONNY PURTILL:  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 5PM, *ICA MEMBERS ONLY*

### PHILADELPHIA, PA

Over six hundred independent publication projects turn the transitional space of ICA's ramp into a volume of volumes. Periodicals, zines, video and audio projects band the walls on narrow shelves skied high on the walls. "Beyond Kiosk" encourages viewers to pull material and peruse it along the way— picture the book stalls of Paris—or stop and read in the window seat and lounge staged half-way up the ramp. This is the 14<sup>th</sup> commission in ICA's Ramp Project Series and will be on view January 18-March 30, 2008.

Selected by Christoph Keller, in an installation designed by Conny Purtill, the exhibition takes an exemplary swath from the Kiosk archive which Keller founded in 2001, and is now housed in Germany's state library, the Kunstbibliothek, Berlin. Totalling over five thousand publication projects, the archive has traveled and been exhibited in its ever-increasing entirety at venues across Europe and America with an artist or designer typically involved in the installation. "Beyond Kiosk" realizes for the first time a curated view of the archive, one that represents both the mass and diversity of the overall collection. A local component will take its place when Keller selects material from Philadelphia's strong community of independent publishers.

"Beyond Kiosk" represents a super-fluorescence of independent publishing projects. It corresponds with computer technologies and means of distribution that make publishing affordable and accessible to virtually anyone who wants to put their ideas into print. More significantly, it explores the range of strategies and modes of production deployed within this increasingly effective means of distribution for making ideas visible.

Christoph Keller is a publisher, designer, curator and distiller, formerly the founding director of the publishing house Revolver-Archiv für aktuelle kunst, based in Frankfurt. He is now editing "Christoph Keller Editions," a series of artists' books published by JRP/Ringier, Zurich. Conny Purtill is the principle of the Philadelphia-based design firm Purtill Family Business. His design for the publication series *Matthew Ritchie: Incomplete Projects 01-07* won the category of graphics in I.D. Magazine's 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Design Awards for 2007. He has worked closely and extensively with ICA over the years.

### CONTACT

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\*checklist and images available upon request.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

ICA is located at:  
118 South 36th Street at the  
University of Pennsylvania

ICA is open to the public, except during installation, from 12pm to 8pm on Wednesday through Friday and from 11am to 5pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Admission is \$6 for adults, \$3 for students over 12, artists, and senior citizens; and free to ICA members, children 12 and under, PENN card holders, and on Sundays from 11am to 1pm.

For more information, call 215-898-7108/5911, or visit [www.icaphila.org](http://www.icaphila.org).

## INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Founded in 1963, the Institute of Contemporary Art at the University of Pennsylvania is a leader in the presentation and documentation of contemporary art. Through exhibitions, commissions, educational programs, and publications, ICA invites the public to share in the experience, interpretation and understanding of the work of established and emerging artists.

This project is organized by Senior Curator Ingrid Schaffner and will be accompanied by a brochure publication with a conversation between Christoph Keller and Conny Purtill.

## THE RAMP PROJECT SERIES

Every season ICA commissions an artist to create a new site-specific temporary work for the ramp that links the first and second floor galleries. A transitional space, the ramp is 52-feet long and is visible from the street through architecturally-scaled picture windows on the building's façade. Especially when it is illuminated at night, each of the commissioned works transforms the ramp into a window on ICA's innovative program on contemporary art. Since the series began in 2000, the ramp has been a site for a diverse range of creative approaches, including wall paintings by Ingrid Calame, Arturo Herrera and Amy Sillman; environmental installations by Virgil Marti, Judy Pfaff and Luca Buvoli; a light and sound piece by Nadine Robinson; an ongoing conceptual project by Alexandra Mir; street photography by Zoe Strauss, and, most recently, a terrarium/aquarium by Phoebe Washburn.

ICA acknowledges primary sponsorship of the William Penn Foundation for this project. Additional funding has been provided by The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, The Dietrich Foundation, Inc., the Overseers Board for the Institute of Contemporary Art, friends and members of ICA, and the University of Pennsylvania. (Information complete as of 12/21/07.)

ALL PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE VISIT THE ICA WEBSITE, [WWW.ICAPHILA.ORG](http://WWW.ICAPHILA.ORG), FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PROGRAMS IN CONJUNCTION WITH "BEYOND KIOSK."