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ELENA DEL RIVERO.

[Swi:t] Home: A CHANT (2001 - 2006).



When: September 6 - October 2, 2011.

Where: New Museum, New York, NY.

Artist talk with Elena Del Rivero and Andrea Blum:

Thursday, September 15, 2011 (7pm- 9pm).

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First New York Museum Presentation of Elena Del Rivero's *[Swi:t] Home: A CHANT* on view at the New Museum in New York this September

An installation to commemorate the 10th anniversary of September 11th by contemporary Spanish artist Elena del Rivero.

New York, NY - This September, the New Museum in New York City will present artist Elena Del Rivero's *[Swi:t] Home: A CHANT (2001-2006)* in its lobby gallery to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

Del Rivero's New York City studio and living space was across the street from the World Trade Center when it was attacked in 2001. In the aftermath of the event, the artist's studio was filled with ashes, dust, and debris. Having been away in her native Spain during the attacks, Del Rivero returned and began the task of carefully salvaging and cataloguing the office memos, personal notes, and documents that blew into her collapsed apartment windows. Over the course of five years, the scraps were eventually cleaned, inventoried, and then hand sewn onto rolls of fabric. Strung from the ceiling of the New Museum's lobby gallery in a cascading form, these long rolls of cotton will evoke a waterfall or clouds of smoke, turning the installation into a powerful evocation of the historical weight of the event and the individual lives affected by it. Immersed in the intricacies of the work, the viewer will see 3,136 pieces of found burnt papers carefully stitched to rolls of cotton mesh, amounting to more than 500 feet of material. This is the first time the work will be seen in a New York museum. It was previously installed at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. in 2008.

The exhibition will be **on view at the New Museum from September 7–October 2, 2011.**

Elena Del Rivero uses simple materials and humble gestures to produce emotionally resonant installations. Her work is often built upon actions like cleaning and sewing that have a domestic tenor. She brings these activities from the private space of the home into the public arena of the gallery giving her works the familiarity of memory but with a surreal and poetic charge. Much of her recent work has used paper as the primary medium transforming it into dramatic forms which expose her personal history in order to create spaces of reflection and community.



About the Artist

The artist was born in Valencia, Spain and has lived in New York since 1991. Del Rivero earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Valencia in 1974 and a degree in English Literature from Cambridge University in 1977. She has had solo exhibitions at the Drawing Center and Art in General in New York, and at the University of Salamanca, the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Reina Sofía, Madrid, and the Caixa Foundation, Barcelona, in Spain. Her work has also been included in group exhibitions in museums in the United States and around the world. In 1995, Del Rivero represented Spain at the Johannesburg Biennale. Del Rivero's art is in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the National Gallery in Washington D.C, Fog Art Museum at Harvard University, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía in Madrid, and Museo de Pamplona in Navarra, Spain, among others.

Exhibition Support

The presentation of Elena del Rivero's work is made possible through a partnership with the Embassy of Spain and the Consulate of Spain in New York. Additional support is provided by Acción Cultural Española (AC/E), and the Toby Devan Lewis Emerging Artists Exhibitions Fund.

About the New Museum

The New Museum is the only museum in New York City exclusively devoted to contemporary art. Founded in 1977, the New Museum was conceived as a center for exhibitions, information, and documentation about living artists from around the world. From its beginnings as a one-room office on Hudson Street to the inauguration of its first freestanding, dedicated building on the Bowery designed by SANAA in 2007, the New Museum continues to be a place of ongoing experimentation and a hub of new art and new ideas.

* Government of Spain —through the Embassy of Spain's Cultural Office in Washington, D.C. and its network of General Consulates and Cervantes Institutes in key cities— promotes Spanish culture and art in the United States and strives to strengthen bilateral cultural, artistic and academic exchanges. Spanish-American cultural cooperation aims to create multiple links between the creative sectors of both countries and promote Spain's contemporary artistic expression with special attention to Americas Hispanic Community, striving to emphasize plurality expression and opinion, in line with Spain's own diversity in language, creativity in the arts and unique cultural heritage.

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