



JUNE 1 - AUGUST 11, 2017

The FLAG Art Foundation presents *The Times* from June 1 – August 11, 2017, on its 9th floor gallery. The exhibition uses *The New York Times* as its point of departure and features over 80 artists, artist duos, and collectives who use the “paper of record” to address and reframe issues that impact our everyday lives.

Reading *The New York Times* is embedded in many people’s daily routines. This chronicle of geopolitical and local issues, tragedies, human interest stories, and trends in culture, serves as both a source of inspiration and medium for

artists to assert their perspectives on the state of the world. In the wake of the 2016 presidential election, where news media was deemed “the enemy of the people,” and *The New York Times* directly attacked and labeled as “fake news,” FLAG began developing an exhibition examining how seminal artists, such as Robert Gober, Ellsworth Kelly, Lorraine O’Grady, Fred Tomaselli, and others, who have used and been inspired by this newspaper in their practice. To give voice to a larger community, FLAG put out an open call for artist submissions that received 400+ proposals from around the world, and accounts for over half of the artists featured in the exhibition.

As its title suggests, *The Times* focuses on works on the paper itself, and includes drawings, paintings, photography, and collage, as well as video, podcasts, and performance. Some artists insert themselves directly in the physical document of the paper, while others are interested in the seriality of the newspaper as a means of marking time, investigating its coded language, or rewriting history. The works address a range of issues: gender, race, police violence and capital punishment, the HIV/AIDS epidemic, the global financial crisis of 2007-08, September 11th, presidential elections, etc.

Central to the exhibition is Ellsworth Kelly’s collage *Ground Zero*, 2003, a poignant proposition for a public memorial to September 11th. Kelly superimposed a green trapezoid over an image of Ground Zero (featured on the cover of the Arts & Leisure section of *The New York Times*) to represent a gentle slope of grass meant for people to congregate and remember. Rirkrit Tiravanija’s untitled 2017 (tomorrow is the question, January 21, 2017), 2017, overlays a provocative question on top of a day’s headlines, playfully and pointedly addressing a pervasive sense of anxiety and uncertainty. Agnieszka Kurant’s *Future Anterior*, 2008, is a version of



Installation view of *The Times* at The FLAG Art Foundation, 2017. Photography by Steven Probert.

The New York Times from the year 2020, rendered in disappearing ink. For the project, Kurant collaborated with professional clairvoyant Krzysztof Jackowski to predict future headlines, and enlisted several New York Times journalists and ghostwriters to pen the articles. *Yesterday's Newspaper, 2007*, by Dave McKenzie, explores the newspaper's seriality as a means of marking time, featuring a low, wooden plinth that elevates today's edition of The New York Times. Made over 26 successive Sundays between June 5 – November 20, 1977, *Lorraine O'Grady's Cutting Out The New York Times, 1977/2017*, examines language, typeface, and coincidence, transforming "found" language from the newspaper into resonant poetry.

Artists include: Becca Albee, Doug Ashford, Luke Butler, Anthony Campuzano, Suzanne Caporaël, Nancy Chunn, Mike Cockrill, David Colman, Jennifer Dalton, NiiLartey De Osu, Anne Deleporte, Mark DeMuro, Richard Dupont, Elise Engler, Laura Fields, Avram Finkelstein, Joy Garnett, Skye Gilkerson, Robert Gober, Felix Gonzalez-Torres, Gran Fury, Group Material, Matthew Hansel, Rachel Harrison, Lubaina Himid, Theresa Himmer, David Hines, Becky Howland, On Kawara, Ellsworth Kelly, Larrell Kitt, Agnieszka Kurant, Stephen Lack, William Ladd and Steven Ladd, Justen Ladda, Sean Landers, Paul Laster, Leigh Ledare, Elissa Levy, Tora López, Jason Bailer Losh, Dashiell Manley, Walter Martin & Paloma Muñoz, Stefana McClure, Dave McKenzie, Tom Molloy, Maynard Monrow, Aliza Nisenbaum, Lorraine O'Grady, Billy Pacak, Alexandra Penney, PLAYLAB, INC., William Powhida, Richard Prince, Dominic Quintana, Beth Reisman, Hunter Reynolds, Bruce Richards, Guy Richards Smit, Carlos Rolón/Dzine, Randall Rosenthal, Donna Ruff, Michael Scoggins, Lauren Seiden, Paul Sietsema, Adam Simon, Ken Solomon, Ruby Sky Stiler, Linda Stillman, Sarah Sze, Yuken Teruya, Rirkrit Tiravanija, Fred Tomaselli, Jim Torok, Panos Tsagaris, Phoebe Washburn, Evan Whale, Carmen Winant, Andrew Witkin, Yes Men, Mark Zawatski, and Angela Pulido Zorro, and more.

June 2017. Web. < <http://flagartfoundation.org/exhibitions/the-times/> >