

Press Release I 01.09.2020

## Judith Barry All the light that's ours to see 19.09. - 22.11.2020

Judith Barry has a research-based art practice that spans a range of media and disciplines, including installation, architecture/exhibition design, film/video, performance and dance, sculpture, photography, and digital media. Her exhibition at Lumiar Cité constitutes the international premiere of a two-channel immersive installation.

**All the light that's our to see** is an elegiac meditation on our changing viewing habits and how we are being transformed by the evolving forms of media surrounding us. The displacement of Mr. Kim's infamous New York video stores and his quest to find a home for his 55,000 films is the catalyst for this two-channel installation that explores how architecture, the long history of technological inventions, as well as art and media histories have affected us and the ways in which we engage with media, and by extension with each other.

The emergence of home video saw a metamorphosis in audience viewing conventions that departed from the collective cinematic tradition – where the experience of watching with others in the dark, seated next to strangers is an integral part of this process – and began to form its own uses for new typologies of social space (video games, social media, and home surveillance), radically altering our notions of shared collective engagement by revolutionising it through the spatialisation of unforeseen forms of digital and online media.

Visually, this project is a palimpsest of images presented across two screens that cinematically interrogates viewing spaces from the medieval period to present-day media environments. The physical array of the cinematic surround and its location-specific installation allows the viewer to slip between these historical moments and question the changing social situations they have encouraged, alongside the relationships among lost media histories, and ever-evolving emerging audience behaviours.

Judith Barry lives and works in New York. She has exhibited internationally and participated in numerous exhibitions, including the Berlin Biennale, CAFA Triennial, Carnegie International, Documenta, Nagoya Biennale, São Paulo Biennial, Sharjah Biennial, Sydney Biennale, Venice Biennale(s) of Art and Architecture, and the Whitney Biennale. A survey of her work travelled in Europe and was shown at the Berardo Museum, Lisbon, in 2010. *Public Fantasy*, a collection of Barry's essays, was published by the ICA in London (1991). Other publications include *Projections: mise en abyme* (1997), *The Study for the Mirror and Garden* (2003) and *Judith Barry: body without limits* (2009. Her awards include the Kiesler Prize for Architecture and the Arts, (2000) and the Best Pavilion and Audience Award at the 8th Cairo Biennale (2001). Currently, she is Director and Professor of the MIT Program in Art, Culture and Technology Cambridge, MA.

The exhibition was designed by the US architect Ken Saylor.

This artwork was produced with the generous support of CAST – Arts at MIT (US), ACT Faculty Project Fund at MIT (US), the donors to the 2018 McDermott Award Gala, hosted by the Council for the Arts at MIT (US), HOME (UK), Film and Video Umbrella (UK), Maumaus / Lumiar Cité, Ministry of Culture / Directorate-General of the Arts (Portugal), Audain Visual Artist in Residency (Simon Fraser University, Canada) and private foundations in Europe and the USA.

## Covid-19: Maximum four visitors in the gallery at any time. Face masks are compulsory.

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## **Lumiar Cité**

Rua Tomás del Negro, 8A 1750-105 Lisbon, Portugal

## Wednesday to Sunday, 15h00 to 19h00 and by appointment

Bus: 798 stop Rua Helena Vaz da Silva, 717 stop Av. Carlos Paredes

Metro: Lumiar (exit Estrada da Torre)

Lumiar Cité is the exhibition space of Maumaus.

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