



Press Release

Nasher Sculpture Center Commissions Sculpture by Alfredo Jaar in Collaboration with Dallas Hospitals for City-Wide, Public Art Exhibition *Nasher XChange*

First citywide, museum - organized public sculpture exhibition in the United States to feature 10 works throughout Dallas; On view October 19, 2013 to February 16, 2014 in celebration of Nasher's 10th anniversary

DALLAS, Texas (July 28, 2013) -- The Nasher Sculpture Center is pleased to reveal the plans for a newly commissioned **sculpture by artist Alfredo Jaar**, which will be created in collaboration with Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas, Methodist Dallas Medical Center and Parkland Health & Hospital System. The work is one of ten commissions for the Nasher's 10th anniversary, city-wide exhibition *Nasher XChange*. The sculpture will be on view at the Nasher Sculpture Center during *Nasher XChange* from **October 19, 2013 through February 16, 2014**.

Jaar's project, *Music (Everything I know I learned the day my son was born)*, is inspired by what it means for a museum to celebrate an anniversary: what does it mean to be born, grow, and then reflect back on ten years of life? Most importantly, how can an institution like the Nasher Sculpture Center acknowledge the community it is a part of? Instead of reflecting on important institutional moments, Jaar intends to celebrate the birthdays of the city's newest citizens and the limitless possibilities of their futures. Inside a pavilion designed by Jaar and located in the Nasher garden, visitors will hear recordings of the first cries of babies born in Dallas between October 1, 2013 and February 1, 2014.

"These babies will enter the museum at the earliest age possible, almost immediately out of their mothers' womb. They will come not as visitors, but as active participants - as artists and performers themselves" said Alfredo Jaar.

In collaboration with Baylor, Methodist Dallas and Parkland hospitals, the sounds of the first few seconds of life will be recorded and uploaded in the pavilion. Throughout the duration of the exhibition, the time-stamped recordings will repeat and new recordings will be added. The unpredictable timing and diversity of voices within the space will create a concert, a symphony of voices that will serve as simple, yet profound reminders of an ever-growing Dallas. By presenting the music of the first moments of life inside the pavilion, Jaar offers a space at the Nasher Sculpture

Center where the newest voices of the city can be heard, engendering a sense of belonging and reciprocity between a cultural institution and its community.

For the hundreds of families who choose to become a part of this artwork, the Nasher Sculpture Center will provide special memberships to the museum – a one-year Giacometti Level Membership for the participating families and the first ever Lifetime Membership for the babies. Expectant mothers who are scheduled to give birth during this four month period at one of the three participating hospitals can obtain information about participating in the project, by emailing their contact information to NasherBabies@NasherSculptureCenter.org.

Alfredo Jaar is a Chilean-born artist, architect, and filmmaker living in New York. He is best-known as an installation artist, often incorporating photography and covering socio-political issues and war – his best-known work perhaps being the six-year long *The Rwanda Project* about the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Trained as an architect rather than as an artist, Jaar describes his working method as how an architect would approach a new commission. He studies each new place “not only in physical but also in social, political, as well as cultural terms,” in the search for the defining essence or issue that will guide his artistic practice. Through compiling first-hand accounts and detailed research, Jaar often brings attention to issues that are very real for some, but often ignored by others, such as homelessness, pollution and genocide. He has made numerous public interventions, such as *The Skoghall Konsthall* one-day paper museum in Sweden; an early electronic billboard intervention, *A Logo For America* in New York's Times Square; and *The Cloud*, a performance project on both sides of the Mexico-USA border.

Jaar's work has been shown extensively around the world, notably in the Biennales of Venice, São Paulo, Istanbul, Kwangju, Johannesburg and Seville. Important solo exhibitions include the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York; Whitechapel Gallery, London; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; Moderna Museet, Stockholm; Museum of Contemporary Art of Rome; Fundación Telefónica, Santiago; Musée des Beaux Arts, Lausanne; the South London Gallery; and most recently in a three-museum retrospective of his work in Berlin. Jaar represented Chile at the 2013 Venice Biennale.

The Nasher has also commissioned Rick Lowe, Liz Larner, Ugo Rondinone, Vicki Meek, Charles Long, Good/Bad Art Collective, Lara Almarcegui, Ruben Ochoa and Rachel Harrison to create works for *Nasher XChange*. Details about their works, including the locations of the installations, will be announced throughout the summer.

Download Images of the participating Hospitals Here:
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3malvz573ww55cd/u6ox8D457v>

Download images of Alfredo Jaar's previous work here:
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/vibmm3sfx1zcsz/bs-zQ4KKnw>

About the Nasher Sculpture Center:

Open since 2003 and located in the heart of the Dallas Arts District, the Nasher Sculpture Center is home to one of the finest collections of modern and contemporary sculptures in the world, the Raymond and Patsy Nasher Collection, featuring more than 300 masterpieces by Calder, Giacometti, Matisse, Picasso, Rodin, and more. The longtime dream of the late Raymond and Patsy Nasher, the museum was designed by world-renowned architect Renzo Piano in collaboration with landscape architect Peter Walker.

Hailed by the "USA Today" as one of the great sculpture gardens where art enhances nature, the roofless museum seamlessly integrates the indoor galleries with the outdoor spaces creating a museum experience unlike any other in the world. On view in the light-filled galleries and amid the landscaped grounds are rotating works from the Collection, as well as blockbuster exhibitions and one-of-a-kind installations by the most celebrated artists of our times. In addition to the indoor and outdoor gallery spaces, the Center contains an auditorium, education and research facilities, a cafe, and a store.

The Nasher brings the best of contemporary culture to Dallas through special programs designed to engage visitors, including artist talks, lecture programs, contemporary music concerts, educational classes and exclusive member events.

The Nasher Sculpture Center is open Tuesday through Sunday from 11 am to 5 pm and until 11 pm for special events, and from 10 am to 5 pm on the first Saturday of each month. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors, \$5 for students, and free for members and children 12 and under, and includes access to special exhibitions. For more information, visit www.NasherSculptureCenter.org.

About Nasher XChange:

To celebrate its 10th anniversary, the Nasher Sculpture Center will present *Nasher XChange*, a dynamic art exhibition consisting of 10 newly-commissioned public sculptures by contemporary artists at 10 sites throughout the city of Dallas from October 19, 2013 to February 16, 2014. Covering a diverse range of neighborhoods and approaches to sculpture, *Nasher XChange* represents the first citywide, museum-organized public art exhibition in the United States.

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