



Currents of Time: New Work by Zineb Sedira

Iniva at Rivington Place

21 May – 25 July 2009

Iniva (Institute of International
Visual Arts), Rivington Place,
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Iniva presents the first London exhibition of Zineb Sedira's recently commissioned video work *Floating Coffins* at Rivington Place.

Floating Coffins was filmed on the little known but beautiful coastline of Mauritania, a bird watcher's paradise. It is also where the world's shipping is beached and broken up, drawing parallels with another of the region's characteristics - the harbour city of Nouadhibou, which has become a point of departure for African migrants trying to reach Europe.

'This unique phenomenon on the Saharan shores represents both a hazard to shipping and an ecological threat. Also the sea becomes a space of 'decline' and an inactive landscape where lifeless ships and human bodies can be found rejected by the sea.' Zineb Sedira

Acclaimed international artist Zineb Sedira is also showing new photographic and light box works to accompany *Floating Coffins* at Rivington Place.

The installation is presented on a complex arrangement of 14 screens with layered sound compiled by Mikhail Karikis. The work lingers with surreal ease on figures removing scrap, birds arriving, and the extraordinary landscape where desert, sea and man's struggle to survive, all combine.

'Floating Coffins is a space where life, death, loss, escape, abandoned and shipwrecked journeys meet. It's both a toxic graveyard and a source for survival and hope.'

 Zineb Sedira.

Zineb Sedira came to wider attention through the *British Art Show* and her solo show *Saphir* at the Photographers' Gallery in 2006. Sedira continues to explore her interest in displacement, mobility and the haunting beauty of abandoned landscapes in her new work.



Curator Tessa Jackson (CEO of Iniva) said: 'Iniva is delighted to present Zineb at Rivington Place. Her lyrical and quietly compelling films reflect on dialogues Iniva has long been engaged with concerning diverse experiences of migration, transition and loss.'

A programme of special events, talks and workshops runs alongside the exhibition. For further information please check the Iniva website www.iniva.org.

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Notes to Editor

Zineb Sedira

Zineb Sedira has worked with installation, photography and video since 1997. Sedira has exhibited internationally and was included in the 2006 British Art Show and Africa Remix at the Hayward in 2005 with solo exhibitions at The Photographers' Gallery, London, and Cornerhouse Manchester UK.

Zineb's new body of work which started with *Saphir* (2006) represents a significant new stage in Zineb's artistic trajectory where her work explores the metaphors of 'the sea, the boats, arriving and departing... stasis and transition, entrapment and escape, belonging and not belonging'.

Richard Dyer, 2006

Mikhail Karikis

Mikhail Karikis is a London-based artist working with music, architecture and visual art. He works with sound art, composition, performance, drawing and video. Karikis created the sound for Sedira's piece *MiddleSea* (2008) which premiered at The Wapping Project, London, in September 2008.

Floating Coffins was commissioned by New Art Exchange, Nottingham, and produced by Artsadmin.

Further information is available at www.iniva.org

Further information

For high resolution images and further press information please contact:

Press

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Head of Communications

Listings Information

Venue: **Rivington Place**, London, EC2A 3BA
Exhibition: **Currents of Time: New Work by Zineb Sedira**

Dates: 21 May – 25 July 2009

Public opening hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 11am – 6pm

Late Thursdays: 11am – 9pm (Last admission 8.30pm)

Saturday: 12noon – 6pm

Sunday, Monday: Closed

Admission: Free

Nearest tubes: Old Street & Liverpool Street



Rivington Place is fully accessible in all public areas
For parking & wheelchair facilities or further information
about Rivington Place +44 (0)20 7749 1240, info@rivingtonplace.org,
<http://www.rivingtonplace.org>

About Iniva

Iniva (Institute of International Visual Arts) creates exhibitions, publications, multimedia, education and research projects designed to bring the work of artists from culturally-diverse backgrounds to the attention of the widest possible public. (www.iniva.org)

Iniva is supported by Arts Council England.

Opened in 2007, **Rivington Place** is Iniva and Autograph ABP's contemporary visual arts space and the UK's first permanent public space dedicated to culturally-diverse visual arts and photography. The building has been realised with thanks to funding from the Arts Council England Lottery Capital 2 Programme and Barclays, the Rivington Place founding Corporate Partner. Barclays £1.1m contribution is part of a much wider programme of community support, which last year totalled over £52.4 million - one of the most substantial in the UK.

The **Rivington Place** project also gives thanks to London Development Agency, City Fringe Partnership, European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), Hackney Council and The City Bridge Trust for their support as well as The Foyle Foundation and the Garfield Weston Foundation. Thanks also to Brodksy Centre and Clifford Chance for their in-kind support. (www.rivingtonplace.org)

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