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Keil Borrman

Facilitation: Airing of the Banner Paintings

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Keil Borrman is a Brooklyn based artist who completed his BFA at the Art Institute of Chicago (2004) and his MFA at Columbia University (2008). He has developed bodies of work in diverse media including painting, drawing, video, sound and sculpture, which demonstrate a sincere commitment to investing art with political and personal content. Although there may be a graphic element to the way an exhibition or project starts and/finishes, Borrman's oeuvre is more subtle than propagandistic.

For his first collaboration with OSMOS Address curated by Jovana Stokic, Borrman proposes an event, what he calls "the action of airing the Facilitation Banner Paintings," that includes actions at First Street Green at 33 East 1st Street, on the same block as the OSMOS Address project space at 50 East 1st Street, where it starts and finishes.

"Airing the paintings" is a performative event which spills outside of the exhibition space to most visibly bring ideas into the public realm—through carrying the banners by the audience/participants. According to the curator's statement, "we call this airing of the Facilitation Banner Paintings as we wish to air our ideas of public relevance. We are interested in the embodiment of political ideas in the sphere of representation."

The performance begins with an outdoor screening of a clip from Herzog's *Cave of Forgotten Dreams* using a projector/DVD player powered by a bike generator/battery. The clip will be a few minutes long and of a section where there's discussion of multiple generations of inhabitants working on the same drawings. The apparatus for projecting the video will include a projector, audio device, dvd player battery pack, and bicycle generator to provide power. It will be a basic scaffold (a platform lying between 2, 6ft wooden A-frame ladders). The video portion/talk will be between 5-10 minutes followed by several minutes of discussion during a walk around the park. The total time in the park will not exceed 60 minutes.

The performance continues with the artist's lecture/discussion of mark making as public engagement through history. After this, participants will carry painted banners back to OSMOS from the park across the street. Returning the banner paintings is an embodied way to bring the discussion from the park into focus.

The airing of the banners is a crescendo that gives the audience the opportunity to experience free use of public space through unfurling and carrying the banners back to OSMOS Address.

Artist's statement on Facilitation Paintings

"Recently, when we've done so, we couldn't help noticing our right to do so has been restrained because we hadn't been flexing that muscle.

Facilitation paintings can help...Utilizing very open language, the paintings are set to be claimed by individuals and groups as banners to organize communities around, facilitate spontaneous political activity and complicate the sanctity of the object d'art.

They are a proposal for what art might be along with a means for investigating a number of complications our current economic system impose on Art's ability to synthesize a community's experience."