



PRESS RELEASE

Julieta Aranda
IF A BODY MEET A BODY

Opening: Thursday, May 9, 6.00 p.m..
May 9 – June 30, 2013

Press Preview: Thursday, May 9, 11.30 – 13.30 a.m.

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Museo di Arte Contemporanea di Villa Croce presents **If a body meet a body**, an exhibition by **Julieta Aranda** showcasing works specifically created for her first solo show to take place in an Italian museum.

As conceived by the artist, the exhibition unfurls along the *piano nobile* as a continued reflection on the transformation of the dichotomy between manual labor and intellectual labor under the *new economy* regime – an era in which the classical blue-collar/white-collar antagonism appears to be over, with the respective outfits hung on a wall. Inspired by those political theories according to which the present economic system (semicapitalism), founded on knowledge production and sign exchange, subject our cognitive faculties to the interest of capital, the artist selected several sculptural series from the museum's collection (works by Guido Galletti, Guido Micheletti and Savina Morra), to gather an heterogeneous community made of heads, a potentially thinking collectivity devoid of its own body and physicality. Symbols of physical and cognitive labor, heads and hands, body and thought, spin around the exhibition space as autonomous fragments, independent of each other, generating a rather stark picture of the contemporary subjectivity: headless, dismembered, with its essential features torn apart.

The exhibition title's mistake, *If a body meet a body*, is intended. It is drawn from a passage in JD Salinger's novel *The Catcher in the Rye* when the young protagonist, dreaming about his future, misquotes a 19th century poem, turning the line "if a body meet a body" in "if a body catch a body". If Holden's role consists in catching bodies before they fall off a cliff, Julieta Aranda focus on the importance of bodies meeting each other and on the infinite possibilities such an encounter generates.

Julieta Aranda's research is an open investigation around the perception and regulation of time and the social constructs that structure our everyday life. Her projects often propose alternative models for the art world's economic system in which artists become active agents, not passive subjects, in post-capitalist society. She has collaborated with Anton Vidokle on several major projects including e-flux (an international network that distributes information on contemporary art exhibitions and events), *e-flux video rental*, *Time/Bank* and *PAWNSHOP*.

Born in Mexico City (1975), lives between Berlin and New York. Her work has been exhibited internationally including at: dOCUMENTA13, 2012; Gwangju Biennial, 2012; Biennale di Venezia, 2011; Performa a New York, 2011; Istanbul Biennial, 2011; Liverpool Biennial, 2010; Moscow Biennale, 2007.

Villa Croce inaugura un innovativo modello di gestione pubblico-privato grazie alla collaborazione tra il Comune di Genova, Palazzo Ducale Fondazione per la Cultura e un gruppo di privati il cui supporto finanziario permette la programmazione artistica

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