

galeria

nara roesler

são paulo
rio de janeiro
info@nararoesler.com.br
www.nararoesler.com.br

galeria nara roesler isaac julien

The British video artist Isaac Julien presents *Playtime*, a scathing critique of capital and its connections with the art world and individuals

Opening October 9th, Galeria Nara Roesler is pleased to present *Playtime*, Isaac Julien's second solo show at the gallery. One of the most widely acclaimed video artists of our time and recipient of numerous prestigious awards, among them the Turner Prize (2001); MIT McDermott Award (2001); Rockefeller Humanities Fellowship Award (1995); and the Semaine de la Critique Prize at the Cannes Film Festival (1991), the British artist will showcase his latest and most ambitious production to date: *Playtime* (2013).

The piece is a scathing critique of capital and its connections with the art world and individuals. Its three-act structure is set in iconic places of the economic crisis that swept the world in 2008: London, whose banking system collapsed; Reykjavik, the capital of Iceland, whose economy was wrecked in two weeks by a succession of strategic errors in managing the crisis' effects on the three local banks; and Dubai, a Middle East financial hub.

Representing different aspects of the issue raised by Julien, six characters are archetypically constructed: the Artist, the

opening

09.10.2014 19h > 22h

exhibition

10.10 > 15.11.2014
seg > sex 10h > 19h
sáb 11h > 15h

galeria nara roesler são paulo

avenida europa 655
jardim europa 01449-001
são paulo sp brazil
t 55 (11) 3063 2344
www.nararoesler.com.br
info@nararoesler.com.br

press office

agência guanabara
t 55 (11) 3062 6399
diego sierra
diego@agenciaguanabara.com.br
laila abou
laila@agenciaguanabara.com.br

Investor, the Auctioneer, the Maid, the Art Dealer and the Reporter. *Playtime* explores the particular ways in which each of these characters is affected by capital and the world economic crisis.

In a global scenario where relationships increasingly take place via economic deals and transactions, what is the role of the human being? In its narrative, *Playtime* appropriates luxury locations that border on sterility with their harmonic, calculated artificiality. In these locations, people never seem completely at ease, unless they are playing a role in the financial game.

The sets, costumes and technical aspects are expertly done and the cast features world-class names, including movie actors, similar to Julien's former productions like *Ten Thousand Waves* (2010). Led by James Franco, the cast comprises Maggie Cheung, Mercedes Cabral, Colin Salmon and Ingvar Eggert Sigurðsson, featuring Simon de Pury.

After travelling to several cities around the world, including London, New York and Sydney, Isaac Julien and his classy *Playtime* are now set to arrive in São Paulo.

about the artist

Isaac Julien is a British artist and filmmaker whose work straddles different art disciplines, using film, dancing, photography, music, theater, painting and sculpture to create a unique poetical-visual language in his audiovisual installations.

His film *Young soul rebels* (1991) won the Semaine de la Critique Prize at the Cannes Film Festival.

Julien was nominated for the 2001 Turner Prize for his films *The long road to Mazatlán* (1999) and *Vagabondia* (2000). His acclaimed five-screen installation *Western Union: small boats* (2007), has been shown at the Metro Pictures, in New York, USA; Galería Helga de Alvear, Madrid, Spain; Centre for Contemporary Arts, Warsaw, Poland; and is part of the collection of the Brandhorst Museum, in Munich, Germany. In 2008, Julien collaborated with Tilda Swinton for a biopic on



midnight sun (playtime), 2013
endura ultra photograph
160 x 240 cm



after october (playtime), 2013
endura ultra photograph
120 x 180 cm



emerald city/capital (playtime), 2013
endura ultra photograph
160 x 240 cm

Derek Jarman, simply titled *Derek*, which featured in the Sundance Film Festival in that same year. His film *Ten thousand waves* (2010) has travelled the world and was shown in 15-plus countries, including cities such as Shanghai, Sydney, Madrid, Helsinki, São Paulo, Gwangju, Gothenburg, Moscow, New York, Miami and London.

Julien is represented in public and private collections around the world, including: MoMA, New York, USA; Tate, London, United Kingdom; Art Collection of the Government of the United Kingdom, London, United Kingdom; Centre Pompidou, Paris, France; Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA; Hirshhorn Museum, Washington, USA; and Museum Brandhorst, Munich, Germany