



INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JULY 19, 2006

**NEWS RELEASE**



Fortuyn's studio preparing cut branches to be cast in bronze for ICA installation.

## *IRENE FORTUYN*

SEPTEMBER 9–DECEMBER 17, 2006

EXHIBITION WALKTHROUGH WITH ARTIST IRENE FORTUYN AND JENELLE PORTER,  
ASSOCIATE CURATOR

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 5-6PM, ICA MEMBERS ONLY

OPENING RECEPTION: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 6-8PM

### **PHILADELPHIA, PA**

A new Ramp Project by Irene Fortuyn (b. 1959, Geldrop, The Netherlands, lives in Amsterdam) goes on view this fall at The Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) at the University of Pennsylvania. The 10th artist's commission in ICA's *Ramp Project Series*, Fortuyn's work can be seen September 9 – December 17, 2006.

Every season ICA commissions an artist to create a new site-specific temporary work for the ramp that links the first and second floor galleries. A transitional space, the ramp is 52-foot long and is visible from the street through architecturally-scaled picture windows on the building's façade. Especially when it is illuminated at night, each of the commissioned works transforms the ramp into a window on ICA's innovative program of contemporary art. Since the series began in 2000, the ramp has been a site for a diverse range of creative approaches, including wall paintings by Ingrid Calame, Arturo Herrera and Amy Sillman; environmental installations by Virgil Marti and Judy Pfaff; a light and sound piece by Nadine Robinson; an on-going conceptual project by Alexandra Mir; and most recently street photography by Zoe Strauss.

Because every ramp project is a commission, created specifically for the space, it is impossible to know what exactly will be on view, until the work is completed. Based on a site visit, Irene Fortuyn's preliminary plan responds to the tree visible through the ramp's picture windows. The installation will involve tree branches, cut during the spring and cast in bronze. Natural branching in the tree limbs will create an abstract pattern on the walls of the ramp, which will also be colored and patterned with fireplace ashes. Handmade colored streamers will change daily according to the day of the week.

Fortuyn makes work about the disposition of place. Cool and intelligent, her installations, sculptures, books, public artworks, and drawings create spaces where psychological and emotional effects can be loosened, more freely associated, or contrasted.

This exhibition will be documented by a brochure publication with an essay by Jenelle Porter, Associate Curator.

### **CONTACT**

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\*Images available upon request

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

ICA is located at:

118 South 36th Street at the University of Pennsylvania.

ICA is open to the public, except during installation, from 12:00pm to 8:00pm on Wednesday through Friday and from 11:00am to 5:00pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Admission is \$6 for adults; \$3 for students over 12, artists, and senior citizens; and free to ICA members, children 12 and under, PENN card holders, and on Sundays from 11:00am to 1:00pm.

For more information, call 215-898-7108/5911, or visit [www.icaphila.org](http://www.icaphila.org).

## **INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART**

Founded in 1963, the Institute of Contemporary Art at the University of Pennsylvania is a leader in the presentation and documentation of contemporary art. Through exhibitions, commissions, educational programs, and publications, ICA invites the public to share in the experience, interpretation and understanding of the work of established and emerging artists.

ICA ACKNOWLEDGES PRIMARY SPONSORSHIP OF THE WILLIAM PENN FOUNDATION FOR THIS PROJECT. WE ARE ALSO GRATEFUL FOR FUNDING FROM THE MONDRIAAN FOUNDATION AND THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE NETHERLANDS IN NEW YORK. ADDITIONAL FUNDING HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE HORACE W. GOLDSMITH FOUNDATION, THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS, THE DIETRICH FOUNDATION INC., THE OVERSEERS BOARD FOR THE INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART, FRIENDS AND MEMBERS OF ICA, AND THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA. ICA IS ALSO GRATEFUL FOR IN-KIND SUPPORT FROM LOEWS PHILADELPHIA HOTEL. (INFORMATION COMPLETE AS OF 7/12/06.)

**ALL PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE VISIT THE ICA WEBSITE, [WWW.ICAPHILA.ORG](http://WWW.ICAPHILA.ORG), FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PROGRAMS IN CONJUNCTION WITH "IRENE FORTUYN."**