

Press News
Immediate Attention



Sunday, December 18th, 2011
1:00 – 3:00 PM

UNISPHERE, Flushing Meadows Corona Park

Queens, NY (December, 2011) – In observance of *International Migrants Day*, interdisciplinary artist, Hector Canonge, invites the general public to symbolically occupy the world by joining him for the presentation of “CLANDESTINO: World Migrant” on Sunday, December 18th, 2011. The two-hour public intervention and performance art event will take place around the Unisphere, the monumental steel structure, located in Flushing Meadows Corona Park in Queens, New York.

CLANDESTINO: World Migrant is Canonge’s latest public intervention / performance in a park in New York City, and it consists of using the perimeter of the Unisphere fountain as a platform for activism and reflection to evoke the displacement of peoples around the world. As the artist moves around the monumental structure, he will create narratives on site, invite the public to write slogans, and read aloud with participants the *Migrant Manifesto* created by Immigrant Movement International. Canonge declares that his public performance “denounces recent immigration policies in the US and around the world. It denounces how people have been affected by ethnic profiling, detention, deportation and separation from loved ones.”

International Migrants Day was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly on December 4, 2000. Taking into account the large and increasing number of migrants in the world, the UN proclaimed December 18 as International Migrants Day. On 18 December 1990, the General Assembly had adopted the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. UN Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are invited to observe International Migrants Day through the dissemination of information on the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, and through the sharing of experiences and the design of actions to ensure their protection.

Hector Canonge lives and works in New York City where he studied comparative literature, film and Integrated Media Arts. His work incorporates the use of various media, commercial technologies, physical environments, cinematic, and performative narratives. Canonge has been featured by the Queens Museum of Art, Bronx Museum, Jersey City Museum, Exit Art, NY Studio Gallery, Flux Factory, Gallery Aferro, Topaz Arts, Y Gallery, Art for Change, and other art spaces in the city and abroad. Exhibitions to his credit include ABSENCE at the Queens Museum of Art, BABEL at Space 37, FRAMING AIDS for Queens Media Arts Development, and Queering Bodies for VISUAL AIDS. He curates and organizes the monthly artists' program A-LAB Forum at Crossing Art Gallery, and directs the monthly independent film series CINEMAROSA. His work has been reviewed by The New York Times, ART FORUM, New York Daily News, Manhattan Times, Queens Chronicle, by major networks ABC, NBC, CNN, CBS, UNIVISION, and by online publications such as Art Experience NYC, NYRemezcla, Turbulence, and ART CARDS Review among others. Canonge recently represented the United States at AMBER'11 Art and Technology Festival in Istanbul, Turkey, and participated with his performance work in Miami Art Fair through an invitation from Grace Exhibition Space.

More information: www.hectorcanonge.net
Contact: hector@hectorcanonge.net
Phone: 646-338-6301

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