

Proposal Project “Correos” (Postal Service). 2011 Call

Title of the work

“Correos” (Postal Service)

Dates for 2011 Call

The call begins on 10th of June and the deadline for submissions ends 10th October 2011.

Type of work

Performance: collective postal action.

Purpose

To create a reference documentation file on the work of women artists which enable researchers to make easier their task and make possible the study of their work.

Intentions

This project aims to address the largest possible number of women artists, curators and critics so that they send information about the work of women artists to museums, so that it can be catalogued facilitating thus present and future research.

Scope of the action

All women artists on the planet.

Description of the action:

The action involves an international mobilization of women artists, curators, critics and gallerists to send by post catalogues, brochures and publications on women artists work.

General Delivery System

To participate, women artists, curators, critics and gallerists will be requested to send by post catalogues, brochures and publications in any format regardless size and whether they are books, CD... on women artists work to the following address:

✉

Centre d'Estudis i Documentació Propuesta Correos Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona Plaça dels Àngels 8 08001 Barcelona Spain

Submissions should be sent in bubble envelopes, it is strongly recommended to use registered mail. In the obverse of the envelope will be entered, in the centre right, the above mentioned MACBA address, and in the upper left corner the address of the sender. The choice of the stamps, their placement and to use creatively the reverse is left to individual decision.

It is necessary and essential to include in the envelope, on a separate sheet and visible, the following data:

✉

Name: _____
Surnames: _____
E-mail: _____
Country of birth: _____
Country of residence: _____

Delivery system from Latin America through AECID (Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo – Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development)

The call begins on 10th of June and the deadline for submissions ends 10th of October 2011.

Women artists, women curators, women critics and women gallerists who wish to send catalogues, brochures and publications, regardless format, size, or means of edition, which document women artist works through the Network Centres of the AECID can proceed as follows:

Visit the AECID web http://www.aecid.es/web/es/aecid/listado_centros/index.html?pagina=1&ordenacion=1)

Locate the Cultural Centre (in the list appears as CC or CCGM) of your Latin American country in the mentioned page. In case there is no cultural centre in that country, contact by email with Enrique León (enrique.leon@aecid.es) who will advise the alternate address for either send by post or personally deliver your catalogues into envelopes with the following requests:

Bubble envelopes. In the obverse of the envelope will be entered, in the centre right, the address obtained on the website of the AECI (or provided by Enrique León), and in the upper left corner the address of the sender. The choice of the stamps, their placement and to use creatively the reverse is left to individual decision.

It is necessary and essential to include in the envelope, on a separate sheet and visible, the following data:

✂

Name: _____
Surnames: _____
E-mail: _____
Country of birth: _____
Country of residence: _____

You can also send your catalogs or documents in a private way using the general delivery system described above in this call.

Background:

Semantic meaning of the word “Correos” (Post)

Correos: Postal Service.

Correos: In imperative, second person plural, it has the meaning “to draw aside”.

Correos: In colloquial Castilian means “to have an orgasm”.

During the conference "Women in the Art System"- Ministry of Culture, Madrid, 8 -11 March 2010 - organized by Women in the Visual Arts, MAV, it came to the conclusion that it is essential to influence the work of archives and documentation to record the work of women artists, and facilitate the research and monitoring of their work by the different people involved in culture.

Traditionally, women used the postal service to collect postcards from distant sites of their interest as a way to get to know cultural and artistic spaces that were inaccessible to them for various reasons. In a reverse way, this Proposal ensures that artists are an active player leaving evidence of their production, using the same postal service, for others to have access to their work in relevant centres. For this reason, this call keeps on paying a tribute to the mail system.

The second part of the Action is carried out with the reception and tearing of the envelopes to reveal their content and integrate them into the library to proceed to their classification. In this way, the project includes librarians as performers and is dedicating this stage to them, being archivist and librarians the first profession mainly consisting by women. Therefore, they can have the illustrated envelopes sent by artists as a memory of this action at this time.

So it is the wish of this project - taking advantage of the political intention of correcting the deficiencies and inequities and the highly receptive attitude of the museums involved – to collaborate actively with them so that they become mandatory reference within the international scene as documentation and archivist centres of women artist work.

On the other hand, the inclusion of documents within the action, make them to be better protected within institutions, as the archives have fewer guarantees of survival, because every so often arises in libraries and documentation centres the possibility of getting rid of brochures and small catalogues, disappearing the poor support that usually documents the work of many artists.

Belén Franco Madrid

12th May 2011