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For Immediate Release

Release Date:
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Exhibition:
Agnieszka Kurant:
exformation

Exhibition Dates:
November 10, 2013 – January 27,
2014

Opening Reception:
Saturday, November 9, 5-7pm

Gallery Hours:
Thursday – Monday, 11am-6pm

Admission:
\$5 suggested donation

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Agnieszka Kurant: exformation

SCULPTURECENTER ARTIST IN RESIDENCE COMMISSION MARKS INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED
ARTIST'S FIRST NEW YORK SOLO EXHIBITION

Long Island City, NY – SculptureCenter is pleased to present the first solo exhibition in the United States by Polish artist Agnieszka Kurant. Kurant's work explores the hybrid status of objects and the ways in which rumors and fictions become phantom capital and enter into social, economic, and political systems of the contemporary world. Kurant is producing several new works that explore the editing process as an aesthetic and political act as well as accumulations and potentials of phantom capital.

Commissioned through SculptureCenter's Artist-in-Residence program in conjunction with Stroom den Haag, Netherlands, the exhibition will feature a new film with the working title *Cutaways*. Produced in collaboration with the renowned film editor Walter Murch (*Apocalypse Now*, *The Godfather*, *The Conversation*), *Cutaways* is based on footage of characters that were originally scripted and shot in various films but were subsequently edited out of the final versions of the films. The deleted footage of 3-5 characters will be combined with newly shot footage of a meeting of these phantom characters from various films to create a new narrative based on surplus content and labor.

Kurant is interested in the complex relationships between value, aura, authorship, production, and ownership of objects. Analyzing collective intelligence, immaterial labor, mutations of memes, and manipulations of collective consciousness, the artist seeks to explore gaps in logic that confuse and inform our understanding of the real and the fictitious.

The exhibition will also include a shortwave radio piece, *103.1 (title variable)*, an accumulation of silent pauses from important political, intellectual and economic speeches from the beginning of voice recording to today. The work is inspired by a short story written by one of Germany's foremost 20th century writers, Heinrich Boll, "Murke's Collected Silences" (1955). Presented as a radio transmission from a reel-to-reel tape player, *103.1 (title variable)* highlights editing as a creative process but also brings forward Kurant's interest in phantom artworks because Boll's story revolves around a sound editor who makes a recording of silent pauses. A text by Diedrich Diederichsen will accompany the exhibition.

Kurant was born in 1978 in Lodz, Poland and studied in Lodz, Warsaw, and London. She was an artist in residence at Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2004); ISCP, New York (2005); Paul Klee Center, Bern (2009); Location One, New York (2012); and Iaspis, Stockholm (2013). She represented Poland at the 2010

Venice Architecture Biennale (in collaboration with the architect Aleksandra Wasilkowska). Her works have been shown at: Witte de With, Rotterdam (2011); Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2004); Tate Modern, London (2006); Zachęta National Gallery of Art, Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle (2009), Warsaw; among other international venues. She participated in several international contemporary art exhibitions including: *Performa Biennial*, New York (2009); *Moscow Biennale* (2007); *Bucharest Biennale* (2008); and *2nd Ural Biennial* (2012). In 2009 she was shortlisted for the International Henkel Art Award (Mumok, Vienna). Sternberg Press published her monograph, *Unknown Unknown*, in 2008.

Agnieszka Kurant: exformation is organized by Mary Ceruti, SculptureCenter Executive Director and Chief Curator.

Also on view: *Tue Greenfort: Garbage Bay* and *Now Showing: Sam Anderson*.

SculptureCenter's major exhibition and operating support is generously provided by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts; the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; New York State Council on the Arts; Lily Auchincloss Foundation, Inc; Bloomberg Philanthropies; the Kraus Family Foundation; the Lambert Foundation fund of the Tides Foundation; the Joan Mitchell Foundation; the New York Community Trust; the Pollock-Krasner Foundation; the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; the A. Woodner Fund; and contributions from our Board of Trustees. Additional funding provided by the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation; Goldman Sachs; A G Foundation; the Ken and Judith Joy Family Foundation; the Peter Jay Sharp Foundation; and contributions from many generous individuals.

Agnieszka Kurant: exformation is presented in collaboration with the Polish Cultural Institute New York. SculptureCenter's Artist-in-Residence program is supported by the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation

About SculptureCenter

Founded by artists in 1928, SculptureCenter is a not-for-profit arts institution in Long Island City, NY dedicated to experimental and innovative developments in contemporary sculpture. SculptureCenter commissions new works and presents exhibitions by emerging and established, national and international artists. Our programs identify new talent, explore the conceptual, aesthetic and material concerns of contemporary sculpture, and encourage independent vision.