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## For Immediate Release

Release Date:  
August 18, 2006

Exhibition:  
***Denial is a River***

Exhibition Dates:  
September 10 –  
November 18, 2006

Press Preview:  
Sunday, September 10, 3pm

Opening Reception:  
Sunday, September 10, 4-6pm

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

Admission:  
\$5 suggested donation

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## DENIAL IS A RIVER

VITO ACCONCI, ACCONCI STUDIO, RITA ACKERMANN, AZRA AKŠAMIJA, GERALDINE BELMONT, DOUGLAS BOATWRIGHT, CHRISTOPH BÜCHEL, MELISSA DUBBIN & AARON S. DAVIDSON, JEAN-LUC GODARD WITH ANNE-MARIE MIÉVILLE & JEAN-PIERRE GORIN, NICOLÁS GUAGNINI, VALERIE HEGARTY, INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED AUTONOMY, NATE LOWMAN, MATTHEW LUSK, EDGAR ORLAINETA, WONJOO PARK, R.H. QUAYTMAN, ALLYSON SPELLACY, KAREN YASINSKY

TEXTS AND ESSAYS BY: HAKIM BEY, JOHN HAWKES, JOHN HEJDUK, GARETH JAMES, DR. SEUSS, PAUL VIRILIO

**New York** – SculptureCenter is pleased to present ***Denial is a River***, a group exhibition that explores how syndromes translate into matter, allowing for a complex of social currents to become visible from the surface through eruptions, gurgles and patterns. This exhibition stems from the methods and tactics of the seven selected *In Practice* artists, placing their concerns into a larger field of artistic practice. (See below for more information on SculptureCenter's *In Practice* program.) ***Denial is a River*** will be on view **September 10 – November 18, 2006** with an opening reception on **Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> 4-6pm**.

Compiled through a convergence of interests, artists in *Denial is a River* reflect syndromes within a common cultural condition: syndromes that effect access to information and affect collective historical data. Appropriations from various sources, fragments from a shared political heritage, are surreptitiously modified, or juxtaposed, to create other narratives or discourses. Sometimes they confuse the issues, sometimes they expand, sometimes they isolate, sometimes they denounce. *Denial is a River* functions in the controversy between the systems of convention and codification, belief and communication.

*Denial is a River* incorporates a diverse set of media and disciplines from Jean-Luc Godard's 1970 video *Ici et Ailleurs* to conceptual clothing design by Azra Akšamija. Matthew Lusk transforms SculptureCenter's courtyard into a Boy Scout encampment rendered dysfunctional. Acconci Studio contributes *Virtual Intelligence Mask* (1993) in which the wearer's view of the world is mediated through cameras placed on the crown of the mask. Melissa Dubbin and Aaron S. Davidson install *CIA Reading Room for Kids* (2006) decorated with elaborate wallpaper and toy-like butterflies that, upon a closer look, display former military encoding devices, and include a compilation of books for children recommended by the CIA. Wonjoo Park addresses convention and control by constructing two electric chairs, one from US letter sized paper and the other from A4 paper, the standard in Europe and Korea, the artist's home country. Rita Ackermann exhibits her archives and diaries for the very first time, informing the viewer about the making of her infamous veiled women whose cultural backgrounds are overlaid with meaning. **Continued**

*In Practice* is an ongoing series designed to support the creation of innovative work by emerging artists. The projects are selected individually and reflect the diversity of approaches to contemporary sculpture. Artists participating in the *In Practice* program are Douglas Boatwright, Melissa Dubbin & Aaron S. Davidson, Valerie Hegarty, Matthew Lusk, Edgar Orlaineta, Wonjoo Park, R.H. Quaytman, and Karen Yasinsky.

*Thanks*

Support for the *In Practice* project series is generously provided by the Jerome Foundation in celebration of the Jerome Hill Centennial and in recognition of the valuable cultural contributions of artists to society.

SculptureCenter is supported in part by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency; the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes a great nation deserves great art; and New York City Councilman Eric Gioia.

SculptureCenter would also like to acknowledge the following foundations and corporations for their support: The A. Woodner Fund, Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Bloomberg, the British Council, Citibank, Cultural Services of the French Embassy, the Jerome Foundation in celebration of the Jerome Hill Centennial and in recognition of the valuable cultural contributions of artists to society, JPMorgan Chase, The Ken and Judith Joy Foundation, The Kraus Family Foundation, The Merrill G. and Erita E. Hastings Foundation, The Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation, The New York Community Trust, and Pro Helvetia, Arts Council of Switzerland.

*About SculptureCenter*

Founded by artists in 1928, SculptureCenter is a not-for-profit arts institution dedicated to experimental and innovative developments in contemporary sculpture. SculptureCenter commissions new work and presents exhibits by emerging and established, national and international artists. In 2001, SculptureCenter purchased a former trolley repair shop in Long Island City, Queens. This facility, designed by artist/designer Maya Lin, includes 6,000 square feet of interior exhibition space, offices, and outdoor exhibition space.

For additional information or images, please contact Katie Farrell at  
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