



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Franklin Furnace presents an exhibition
to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Fluxus

FLUXUS: A CONCEPTUAL COUNTRY

opening celebration Friday, September 18, 6-8 PM

continues through November 14, 1992

112 Franklin Street, New York City
Tuesdays through Saturdays, noon to 6 PM

Fluxus, thirty years old in 1992, holds that change is the only constant. This movement contributed the term "intermedia," and popularized the time-based performance, video, film, installation and published multiple forms that artists and the public take for granted today. The focus of "Fluxus: A Conceptual Country" will be upon activities that took place in Czechoslovakia, Japan, France, Denmark and the United States, conceptually united by the idea of Fluxus.

Franklin Furnace is organizing a city-wide 30th Birthday party to include historical Fluxus objects, and an interactive computer display which will provide Virtual Reality, cutting-edge technology to access Fluxus objects; contemporary installation works at Emily Harvey Gallery; and a film/installation festival at Anthology Film Archives. "Fluxus: A Conceptual Country" will travel as a consolidated exhibition to three sites across the United States. A two-volume issue of Visible Language will both document the exhibition and serve as a scholarly reference after its national tour.

While Franklin Furnace's exhibition is intended to be an in-depth historical and theoretical investigation of the movement, it will also convey the spirit of fun that pervaded every Fluxus object and event. Consequently, the anti-elitist works in this exhibition will appeal to both scholarly art and general publics. Additionally, seminal works by Fluxus founder George MacLunas, in the collection of Jonas Mekas and Hollis Melton, will be seen for the first time as part of "Fluxus: A Conceptual Country."

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Franklin Furnace is committed to exhibiting and preserving the work of contemporary avant-garde artists, and to exploring the roots of temporal expression in the historical avant-garde movements of this century. Past exhibitions which have served to re-contextualize twentieth-century art history include "The Avant-Garde Book: 1900-1945," "Cubist Prints/Cubist Books," "Mail Art: Then and Now," "Letterism and Hypergraphics: The Unknown Avant-Garde," "Books and Graphics of the COBRA Artists," "The Page as Alternative Space: 1909-1980," and "The Happenings of Ken Dewey."

"Fluxus: A Conceptual Country" is a traveling exhibition organized by Franklin Furnace Archive, and curated by Estera Milman. It is made possible by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency; the New York State Council on the Arts; HarperCollins Publishers; the University of Iowa, the friends and members of Franklin Furnace, and participating institutions.

SCHEDULE:

Circulated in collaboration with Alternative Traditions in the Contemporary Arts, Anthology Film Archives, Emily Harvey Gallery, Madison Art Center, Mary and Leigh Block Gallery of Northwestern University, Second Look Computing, The University of Iowa Museum of Art, and Visible Language Journal.

New York City

Franklin Furnace, "Fluxus: A Conceptual Country," September 18 - November 14, 1992.

Emily Harvey Gallery, "Ten Years on Broadway: Fluxus 1982-1992," September 18 - November 14, 1992.

Anthology Film Archives, "In and Around Fluxus: Film Festival and Fluxfilm Environments," September 19 - October 11, 1992.

Madison, Wisconsin

Madison Art Center, December 5, 1992 - January 31, 1993.

Iowa City, Iowa

The University of Iowa, Museum of Art and Institute for Cinema and Culture, March 27 - May 23, 1993.

Evanston, Illinois

Mary and Leigh Block Gallery of Northwestern University, September 23 - December 5, 1993.

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