

## **PRESSRELEASE**

Opening: Wednesday, 4th of May 2005, 17.00 – 20.00

The **CIA.IS – CENTER FOR ICELANDIC ART** is the platform for Icelandic Visual Art activities. CIA.IS promotes Icelandic art by connecting the local visual art community with the International artnetwork. It enforces national and international collaborations in order to improve opportunities for Icelandic artists in their homecountry and to increase their popularity abroad.

### **Information on Contemporary Icelandic Art**

The CIA.IS is the prime source of information for Icelandic artists as well as for foreign curators, collectors, journalists or all people who are interested in Icelandic culture.

The Center in Hafnarstræti 16, 101 Reykjavík is open for visitors on Mon – Fri 10 a.m. – 4. p.m.

Visitors can use the Library or get basic information about current exhibitions.

A selective videoarchive will provide additional insight into the wide spectrum of the Icelandic art scene. In addition to that, foreign institutions are regularly invited to introduce themselves and their work. This program will start with “lothringer13/Spiegel – Artist- and Videoarchive, Munich (Germany).

### **Website**

The website [www.cia.is](http://www.cia.is) is the window to the Icelandic visual arts scene. It provides the basic information about all Museums, Galleries and other Art Institutions and Associations. The included database UMM.IS offers an overall survey of Icelandic Artists.

Besides that local Artists can find here all necessary information to the CIA.IS grant program as well as important links to the international art world.

### **LIST – Icelandic Art News**

LIST is the monthly online art magazine which distributes Icelandic art related topics. Its first edition will be published on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Cooperation | Productions | Networking | Discussions**

CIA.IS works on collaborative projects with both Icelandic and/or international partners. Our current projects include e.g. the cooperation with Reykjavík Arts Festival [Mai – June 2005, [www.artfest.is](http://www.artfest.is)], the cooperation for the Icelandic Pavilion in 51<sup>st</sup> Venice Biennial and the responsibility for the Icelandic Pavilion at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Venice Biennial.

In cooperation with other institutions, the CIA.IS invites international curators, critics, art historians and scientists to Iceland, introduce them to the local Art Scene, and to bring their expertise to local Artists through lectures or for research.

The CIA.IS is the first point of contact for both Artists and everybody interested in Icelandic Art. With regular workshops, lectures, excursions etc. it brings people together and gives them the opportunity to meet and discuss, and strengthen the links between Iceland and the international art scene in contemporary visual art.

For more information visit: [www.cia.is](http://www.cia.is)

or contact us:

Dr. Christian Schoen – Director

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