

REDCAT

ROY AND EDNA DISNEY/CALARTS THEATER

NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:
Diana Wyenn, REDCAT
dwyenn@calarts.edu, 213-237-2873

For Immediate Release
April 10, 2013

REDCAT presents

THE OTOLITH GROUP: *MEDIUM EARTH*

<http://www.redcat.org/exhibition/otolith-group>

On view in the Gallery at REDCAT

April 21–June 16, 2013

Opening Reception: Saturday, April 20 | 6–9PM



The Otolith Group, "Medium Earth," 2013, production still. Courtesy the artists.

RELATED EVENTS:

Saturday, April 20 | 7PM

The Otolith Group (Anjalika Sagar and Kodwo Eshun) in conversation with George Baker,

Associate Professor of Art History at UCLA

Sunday, April 21 | 12–6PM

Body Tremors: The Geopoetics of Prediction and Premonition, a series of presentations and conversations exploring the agency of the seismic and the sensitive.

LOS ANGELES, CA—REDCAT, CalArts' downtown center for contemporary arts, presents in its gallery *The Otolith Group: Medium Earth*, a new video installation by award-winning London-based artists The Otolith Group. The exhibition will be on view Sunday, April 21, 2013 through Sunday, June 16, 2013 with an opening reception on Saturday, April 20 from 6–9 pm.

Part prequel and part premonition, *Medium Earth* is a work caught within its own imminent future. A notebook film that initiates a new cycle of production by The Otolith Group, *Medium Earth* represents the outgrowth of research undertaken throughout California in advance of a larger project. Conceived as notes toward the making of a future film, *Medium Earth* attunes itself to the seismic psyche of the state of California. It listens to its deserts, translates the writing of its stones, and deciphers the calligraphies of its expansion cracks. Commissioned by REDCAT and complimented by a series of public programs on the geopoetic practices of prediction and premonition, it is the first work produced by The Otolith Group within an American context.

The accumulation of moving images and sounds that make up *Medium Earth* comprise an audiovisual essay on the millennial time of geology and the infrastructural unconscious of Southern California. Focused on the ways in which tectonic forces express themselves in boulder outcrops and the hairline fractures of cast concrete, *Medium Earth* participates in the cultures of prophecy and forecasting that mediate the experience of seismic upheaval. The desire to evoke the hidden substrata of the planet gives way to a morphological interpretation of the face of the earth. As an experiment in channeling the system of fault lines buried below California, *Medium Earth* animates the stresses and strains of physical geographies undergoing continental pressures.

Founded in 2002 by Anjalika Sagar and Kodwo Eshun, The Otolith Group is an award-winning artist collective based in London. The Otolith Group produces films, installations, and exhibitions that emerge from archival research into the global nuclear regime, speculative futures, tricontinentalism, and cybernetics. Recent exhibitions have been presented at museums including MAXXI, Rome; MIT List Visual Arts Center, Boston; MACBA, Barcelona; Bétonsalon, Paris; and The Showroom, London. Their work has been included in such international exhibitions as dOCUMENTA 13; the 29th São Paulo Biennial; and Manifesta 8, Murcia, Spain. In 2010, The Otolith Group was nominated for the Turner Prize.

In conjunction with the exhibition at REDCAT, The Otolith Group will present a series of public events, including:

Saturday, April 20 | 7PM

The Otolith Group (Anjalika Sagar and Kodwo Eshun) in conversation with George Baker, Associate Professor of Art History at UCLA

Sunday, April 21 | 12–6PM

***Body Tremors: The Geopoetics of Prediction and Premonition*, a series of presentations and conversations exploring the agency of the seismic and the sensitive.**

Confirmed participants for *Body Tremors: The Geopoetics of Prediction and Premonition* include: **Susan Elizabeth Hough**, seismologist at the United States Geological Survey in Pasadena, California; **Dick Hebdige**, media theorist and sociologist, and current director of the Desert Studies Project, a pilot program in interdisciplinary California-embedded arts-centered research, immersion pedagogy, and process curating organized by The University of California Institute for Research in the Arts in collaboration with the UC Riverside Sweeney Art Gallery; **Charlotte King**, earthquake sensitive who maintains a website and list serve devoted to the prediction of seismic activity throughout the world. The program of presentations and conversations will be accompanied by intermittent screenings of related audio/visual works, including *Internal Tantrum* (1975) by artist and composer **Charlemagne Palestine** and more.

To learn more about these programs and the exhibition, visit:

<http://www.redcat.org/exhibition/otolith-group>

To visit The Otolith Group's website:

<http://otolithgroup.org>

To request interviews, additional information, media or images, please contact Diana Wyenn at 213 237-2873 or dwyenn@calarts.edu.

The Otolith Group: *Medium Earth* is funded in part with generous support from the British Council and the Pasadena Art Alliance. The Standard is the official hotel of REDCAT.

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EXHIBITION INFORMATION

THE OTOLITH GROUP: *MEDIUM EARTH*

Date(s)/Time(s):

April 21–June 16, 2013

Noon–6PM or intermission, closed Mondays

Ticketing:

Always free

Location:

631 West 2nd Street

Los Angeles, California USA 90012

For more information:

Visit redcat.org

Call 213-237-2800

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ABOUT REDCAT | THE ROY AND EDNA DISNEY/CALARTS THEATER

REDCAT, CalArts' downtown center for contemporary arts, presents a dynamic and international mix of innovative visual, performing and media arts year round. Located inside the iconic Walt Disney Concert Hall complex in downtown Los Angeles, REDCAT houses a modular theater, a 3,000-square-foot gallery space and a lounge. Through performances, exhibitions, screenings, and literary events, REDCAT introduces diverse audiences, students and artists to the most influential developments in the arts from around the world, and gives artists in this region the creative support they need to achieve national and international stature. REDCAT continues the tradition of the California Institute of the Arts, its parent organization, by encouraging experimentation, discovery and lively civic discourse.

Gallery at REDCAT aims to support, present, commission and nurture new creative insights through dynamic projects and challenging ideas. The Gallery presents five exhibitions every year, often of newly commissioned work that represents the artist's first major presentation in the U.S. or Los Angeles. The Gallery also maintains an active publishing program producing as many as two major monographs per year. Proceeding from the geographic and cultural specificities of Los Angeles, its program emphasizes artistic production of the Pacific Rim—namely Mexico, Central and South America and Asia—as regions that are of vital significance to California. The Gallery aims to facilitate dialogue between local and international artists contributing to a greater understanding of the social, political and cultural contexts that inform contemporary artistic practice.

For current program and exhibition information call 213-237-2800 or visit redcat.org.

REDCAT is located in downtown Los Angeles inside the Walt Disney Concert Hall complex with a separate entrance at the corner of West 2nd and Hope Streets. REDCAT's street address is 631 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles CA 90012. Parking is available in the Walt Disney Concert Hall parking structure. \$9 event rate or \$5 for vehicles entering after 8:00 pm on weekdays.

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MEDIA CONTACT

Diana Wyenn
Media Relations and Promotions Manager, REDCAT
213 237-2873, dwyenn@calarts.edu