# **BEALL CENTER FOR ART + TECHNOLOGY**



# Wall of Sound: New Work by Zimoun



# **FREE PUBLIC EVENTS:**

**OPENING RECEPTION:** Thurs, Feb 6, 6pm - 9pm **FAMILY DAY:** Sat, April 12, 2014, 11am-4pm

#### ADDRESS:

Beall Center for Art + Technology University of California, Irvine Claire Trevor School of the Arts 712 Arts Plaza Irvine, CA 92697-2775 www.beallcenter.uci.edu

#### CONTACT:

Samantha Younghans-Haug Programs Director (949)824-6206 email: syoungha@uci.edu

#### **HOURS:**

Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 12 – 5pm Thursday - Saturday, 12 – 8pm Closed Sundays & Mondays, Mar 26-29, 2104 The gallery is free and open to the public.

Private tours available by appointment: contact the Beall Center at (949)824-6206.

The Beall Center received its initial support from the Rockwell Corporation in honor of retired chairman Don Beall and his wife, Joan, the core idea being to merge their lifelong passions - business, engineering and the arts - in one place. Today major support is generously provided by the Beall Family Foundation.

For more info about the artist & exhibition contact the Beall Center Artistic Director, David Familian at (949)824-4543 or email <u>dfamilia@uci.edu</u>.



# Wall of Sound: New Work by Zimoun

The Beall Center for Art + Technology will present a new commissioned work by Swiss artist Zimoun during a solo exhibition titled "Wall of Sound: New Work by Zimoun" from February 6, 2014 through May 3, 2014, at the Beall Center gallery on the campus of University of California at Irvine.

Zimoun will transform the interior gallery into an architectural sound sculpture using cardboard boxes as the structure combined with mechanical "drumming" elements that immerses the spectator in a unique sonic and spatial experience. Sound is used as an architectural element that defines space both naturally and mechanically and immerses the spectator in a unique sonic and spatial experience. His work shifts the viewers' relationship with technology and reminds them of the motors and materials that move everyday life. Zimoun is a Swiss artist who lives and works in Bern, Switzerland. As self-taught artist, he is most known for his sound sculptures, sound architectures and installation art.

Zimoun's work up to this point has primarily been created in grid-like forms or as large stand-alone architectural structures. The new work commissioned by the Beall Center will appear random, but will be arranged purposely throughout the 223 square meter gallery. Zimoun will use over four hundred prepared cardboard boxes, and will assemble common items such as cotton balls, filler wire and prepared mechanical motors to spin objects that make percussive sounds against the cardboard. The sound of objects hitting each box creates a tapestry of kinetic and sonic sound interactions that fill the gallery. The architectural structure of Zimoun's new work will produce a new and enhanced outcome resulting in more subtle changes of sound as one walks through the gallery space.

## **About the Artist**

Exploring mechanical rhythm and flow in prepared systems, Zimoun's installations incorporate commonplace industrial objects. In an obsessive display of simple and functional materials, these works articulate a tension between the orderly patterns of Modernism and the chaotic forces of life. Carrying an emotional depth, the acoustic hum of natural phenomena in Zimoun's minimalist constructions effortlessly reverberates.

Zimoun, born in Switzerland in 1977, lives and works in Bern. His work has been presented in solo and group shows as well as performances world-wide. Zimoun has been awarded different art prizes and residencies and has served as a guest lecturer.

Recent displays of his work include exhibitions at the Nam June Paik Art Center in Korea; Kuandu Museum of Fine Arts, Taipei; Art Basel; Galerie Denise René Paris; Ringling Museum of Art, Florida; Harnett Museum of Art, Richmond; bitforms gallery New York; Kunsthalle Bern; Seoul Museum of Art; Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein; Museum Les Champs Libres, Rennes; Contemporary Art Museum MNAC Bucharest; Musée des Beaux-Arts Rennes; Museum of Fine Arts Bern; Museum of Contemporary Art MSUM, Ljubljana; Art Museum Lugano; among others.

The Artist thanks: bitforms gallery nyc 529 west 20th st, new york, ny 10011 212. 366.6941 212.366.6939 www.bitforms.com

#### For More information

Artist Website: http://www.zimoun.net/

Artist complete CV: <a href="http://www.zimoun.net/cv\_detail.html">http://www.zimoun.net/cv\_detail.html</a> Images of past work: <a href="http://www.zimoun.net/works.html">http://www.zimoun.net/works.html</a>

## **Artist Contact Info**

Studio Zimoun Bern, Switzerland

Phone: +41 (0) 44 586 49 01

Email: x@zimoun.ch

Current team: Elisa Tangheroni, Florian Bürki, Janis Weidner, Matteo Taramelli,

Stephanie Sherriff, Till Hillbrecht, Ulf Kallscheidt, Zimoun.

#### CONTACT ARTIST FOR IMAGES AND APPROVAL OF USE.

# **About the Center**

The Beall Center's 2013-14 exhibition season focuses on artworks that are dedicated to our relationships with sound, space and sculpture. Our season began with a group exhibition where artists used sound in various structures, rhythms and patterns. The season will culminate with a solo exhibition by Swiss artist Zimoun who is creating a new commissioned work that incorporates a complex sound structure arranged and formed specific to the Beall Center's gallery space. Highlighting sound art and displaying the works in a year-long series provides a distinctive and comprehensive experience for our visitors.

The Beall Center's curatorial focus presents a diverse range of innovative, world renowned artists, both national and international, who work with experimental and interactive media. Many of these artists have shown their works primarily within group exhibitions or have a limited number of solo exhibitions in the US. The Beall Center is committed to exhibiting these artists in a way that more fully expresses their individual body of work. The majority of exhibitions presented at the Beall Center include commissioned works and premiers of new works. We strive to present a direct connection between our programs and the larger trajectory of the history of video, installation art, kinetic and cybernetic sculpture. Our approach is not to exclusively emphasize the technological aspects of works, but to present experimental media projects that are equally strong aesthetically, conceptually and technically.

Technology-based exhibitions are inherently labor and resource intensive, and consequently more expensive to mount than other, more established and stable art forms. In an environment where many art galleries do not have the facilities, equipment or staff to present a comprehensive program of experimental media arts, the Beall Center is uniquely poised to provide artists with the specific expertise, resources and facilities necessary to produce this new work. It is with great pleasure that we have the opportunity to bring Zimoun's work to the United States to exhibit to the West Coast region.

Established in 2000 as a free and public art gallery, the Beall Center's programming is largely supported through private donations.