

## **THE WATERMILL CENTER PARTNERS WITH CATALAN CENTER AT NYU AND TAIPEI CULTURAL CENTER TO OFFER SPECIAL RESIDENCY FELLOWSHIPS**

### **Watermill Continues to Forge Relationships with International Institutions to Invite Artists for Residencies at Singular Southampton Facility**

#### **Residencies Will Be Chosen by Watermill's New Selection Committee**

The Watermill Center is pleased to announce new alliances with both The **Catalan Center at NYU** and the **Taipei Cultural Center** for fellowships that will bring artists from the Catalan cultural region and the Republic of China (Taiwan), respectively, to participate in Watermill's prestigious residency programs.

This first recipients of the new fellowships will live and work at Watermill this summer: The Catalan architects **Beatriz Mínguez** and **Francesco Ducato** and Taipei's experimental theater company, **Shakespeare's Wild Sisters Group**. Mínguez and Ducato will collaborate with Watermill founder **Robert Wilson** on several projects, including a large art installation at the IVAM, Valencia's contemporary art museum. Shakespeare's Wild Sisters Group will be working on a new play.

The new fellowships will be available on an ongoing basis. Residents will be chosen by Watermill's new selection committee, which consists of eminent individuals from a diversity of fields and is convening for the first time this summer.

The committee's selections will be based on artistic quality, originality and collaborative/interdisciplinary nature. As part of the experience, the artists-in-residence will lead at least one lecture, master class, workshop, open rehearsal or other public event for local community members to provide insight into the creative process.

In forging these institutional partnerships and establishing these fellowship programs, the Watermill Center continues to fulfill the mission of its founder, the theater and visual artist Robert Wilson: to provide a unique environment for young and emerging artists to explore theater, and, in so doing, to develop a strong global network transcending age, experience, social, religious and cultural backgrounds. Since Watermill's new facilities were inaugurated in July 2006, its residency programs have hosted artists from all over the world.

#### **About The Catalan Center at New York University**

The Catalan Center at New York University, an affiliate of the Institut Ramon Llull, represents and promotes Catalan culture in the New York metropolitan area by establishing bridges between artists and cultural institutions from the Catalan cultural region—Catalonia, Valencia, the Balearic Islands, Andorra, the south of France and a portion of Corsica—and their New York counterparts. The Catalan Center has collaborated with a number of major New York institutions toward the

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fulfillment of its mission: the Metropolitan Museum, the Museum of Modern Art, The Center for Architecture, the Brooklyn Academy of Music, and The International Center of Photography, to name a few.

The Catalan Center also supports academic programming at New York University under the umbrella of the Center for European and Mediterranean Studies (and in collaboration with the Institute of Fine Arts, the King Juan Carlos I of Spain Center, the Creative Writing Program, the Departments of History, Spanish & Portuguese, etc.).

## **About the Taipei Cultural Center**

The Taipei Cultural Center, part of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York, is responsible for planning, promoting, and implementing a variety of arts activities, as well as supervising the operation of Taipei Gallery and Taipei Theater.

The Taipei Cultural Center cooperates with important arts organizations in New York and North America to bring artists from the Republic of China (Taiwan) to New York and North America to perform and exhibit work, conduct artist residencies, and participate in arts festivals. The Center thereby seeks to increase international visibility of Republic of China (Taiwan)'s culture and arts.

The Taipei Cultural Center has collaborated with Watermill before, last summer (2007), when U-Theatre and the famous Chinese Opera diva, Wei Hai-ming, participated in Watermill's International Summer Arts Program.

## **About the Watermill Center**

Robert Wilson established Watermill in 1992 as a unique environment for young and emerging artists to explore theater. Watermill aims to be a central force in the shaping of what theater means today and what it can become tomorrow. To achieve this aim, the Watermill community draws inspiration from all the arts as well as from social, human and natural sciences.

Living and working together lies at the heart of the Watermill experience. Watermill supports projects that reflect the approach of its founder Robert Wilson: mixing and integrating different genres and art forms, breaking with traditional forms of representation, developing democratic and cross-cultural approaches.

Watermill houses the archives of its founder and his extensive art collection for research, study and inspiration. The whole of human experience and traditions in all their diversity is the springboard for the avant-garde of the future.

Watermill offers a wide range of programs and activities throughout the year. For the well-known International Summer Program, Robert Wilson invites about 80 artists, young as well as established, for workshops developing his work. From September to June, Watermill provides space and time for 12 to 15 artists' residencies selected by a high-profile committee of practitioners in the arts and humanities. The residencies are complemented by educational programs with schools and other institutions, public events such as open rehearsals and lectures, tours of the building and grounds, and seminars and symposia.

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