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FAHLSTRÖM

ÖYVIND FAHLSTRÖM

BALTIC The Centre for Contemporary Art - Levels G, 1, 2 & 3

Saturday 28 September 2002 – Sunday 24 November 2002

Press view – Thursday 26 September 2002, 12.30

Public opening – Saturday 28 September 2002

BALTIC The Centre for Contemporary Art presents the first UK exhibition of the work of Öyvind Fahlström (1928-76). Characterised by an aesthetic of game-play and interactivity and spanning a variety of media, Fahlström's work represents one of the least explored areas of the art of the 1960s and 1970s. Highly influential to a present generation of artists, Öyvind Fahlström's art is a prolific and impassioned commentary on the political and cultural events of his time, from global capitalism to the Vietnam War.

This exhibition will present the largest number of works to date in the show's international tour and will include paintings, sculptures, installations, graphics and multiples, films and sound pieces, as well as an extensive interactive section using BALTIC's cutting-edge multimedia facilities.

It reflects the breadth of his practice, with over 100 pieces on display, from his earliest work Opera, (1952-3), to the monumental paintings and installations such as The Little General (Pinball Machine) (1967/8) and Meatball Curtain (for R. Crumb) (1969) for which he is perhaps best known.

The Fahlström exhibition will show a totally different side of BALTIC to B.OPEN. For the duration of the Fahlström exhibition, the building will become almost like a museum, with an international touring exhibition that includes major loans from leading museums, including Centre Pompidou in Paris, Moderna Museet in Stockholm, the Guggenheim Museum in New York, the Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona (MACBA) and the Städtische Galerie im Lenbachhaus, Munich. Curators of the show are Sharon Avery-Fahlström, Manuel Borja-Villel and Jean-François Chevrier.

"We are delighted that the first major exhibition following our successful opening will bring the work of such an exciting and influential artist to BALTIC. Our ambition to show the art of our time very much includes the art and artists that have preceded and influenced artists working today. With the groundbreaking work of Öyvind Fahlström we are able to provide an important part of this contextual framework. This is an anchor exhibition in our first year's programme".

- Sune Nordgren, Director

The Autumn season at BALTIC is supported by Dickinson Dees Law Firm.

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For further information about Öyvind Fahlström visit: www.fahlstrom.com