

News Release



DEPARTMENT OF
**ART
& ART HISTORY**

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January 22, 2009
*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

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Visiting Artist Julie Mehretu to speak at the Department of Art & Art History at MSU and exhibit at Kresge Art Museum

Department of Art & Art History, MSU
Kresge Art Museum, MSU

EAST LANSING, MI — The Department of Art & Art History at Michigan State University is pleased to announce the visit of world-renowned artist Julie Mehretu. Mehretu will discuss her work in a public lecture on **Tuesday, February, 5 at 7:00 p.m.** in room 118 of the Psychology Building.

Ethiopian-American artist Julie Mehretu spent much of her childhood in East Lansing where her father is on the MSU faculty. Her work has been featured internationally including at the Whitney Biennial and Carnegie International and is currently on display at the Detroit Institute of Arts. She is the recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship (2005) and a Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant.

Mehretu has been described as a truly global artist whose large, abstract paintings explore issues of mobility, social organization, political entanglement, and global competition. The vocabularies of maps, urban planning, and architectural forms join together in her densely layered paintings and drawings.

In addition to the lecture, Mehretu's work will be on view from in *Julie Mehretu – New Drawings* at the **Kresge Art Museum** from **February 1 – March 16, 2008**. Both the lecture and exhibition are free and the public is encouraged to attend.

Those seeking a more intimate look into Mehretu's artistic process may be interested in attending a studio tour presented as a fundraiser by **The Friends of Kresge Art Museum** on **Thursday, February 7 – 5:30 pm** on Grand River Avenue in Okemos, MI. Please contact the Kresge Art Museum at (517) 353-9834 for more details.



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www.artmuseum.msu.edu

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Limited in-person interviews may be available with Julie Mehretu. Please contact Michelle Word or Mariah Cherem for details.

VISITING ARTIST PROGRAMMING – JULIE MEHRETU:

LECTURE:

Julie Mehretu

Tuesday, February 5, 2008 – 7:00 pm

Michigan State University, 118 Psychology

Lecture is free and open to the public. For additional information call (517) 432-3961 or visit www.art.msu.edu.

EXHIBITION:

Works on Paper Gallery: Julie Mehretu – New Drawings

February 1 – March 16, 2008

Julie Mehretu draws, erases, and redraws details on top of the architectural layers in her paintings. These drawings are preparatory to her large paintings, and sometimes interim between paintings. In addition, she has created several prints which will be on view along with drawings from 2007.

Kresge Art Museum is located in Kresge Art Center, at the intersection of Physics and Auditorium Roads between the Alumni Chapel and the MSU Auditorium on the campus of Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI. Museum hours are Monday through Friday, 10 to 5 p.m., Thursday until 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. For additional information, call (517) 355-7631 or visit www.artmuseum.msu.edu.

STUDIO TOUR:

Julie Mehretu and Jessica Rankin

Thursday, February 7 – 5:30 pm

Grand River Avenue, Okemos, MI

Join the Friends of The Kresge Art Museum for an opportunity to tour and meet artists Julie Mehretu and her studio mate, Jessica Rankin on Thursday, February 7 from 5:30-7:30. Mehretu and Rankin share a 7500 square foot studio in Okemos. This open studio is an extraordinary opportunity to view work in progress by these world-renowned artists. For more information on ticket prices or to RSVP contact (517) 353-9834.

Editor's Note: Three images are attached to this release. The captions are as follows:

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Circulation, 2005

Color hard ground etching with aquatint and engraving on Gampi paper chine collé

35 1/2 x 46 3/4 inches (90.2 x 118.7 cm)

Collection Assefa & Doree Mehretu

Printed at Crown Point Press, San Francisco by Dena Schuckit

© Julie Mehretu

Diffraction, 2005

Color sugar lift aquatint with aquatint, spit bit aquatint and hard ground etching on Gampi paper chine colle

35 1/2 x 46 3/4 inches (90.2 x 118.7 cm)

Collection Assefa & Doree Mehretu

Printed at Crown Point Press, San Francisco by Dena Schuckit

© Julie Mehretu

Local Calm, 2005

Sugar lift aquatint with aquatint, spit bit aquatint, soft ground and hard ground etching and engraving on Gampi paper chine colle

35 1/2 x 46 3/4 inches (90.2 x 118.7 cm)

Collection Assefa & Doree Mehretu

Printed at Crown Point Press, San Francisco by Dena Schuckit

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