COMUNICADO/

PROJETO SONAE// SERRALVES

SONAE//SERRALVES PROJECT TAKES ART TO UNIVERSITY OF COIMBRA

Haegue Yang, the internationally renowned South Korean artist, will be presenting her work and artistic thought in a public conversation held at the College of the Arts of the University of Coimbra, next 6 May.

Next Friday, 6 May, Coimbra will be welcoming the South Korean artist Haegue Yang, in a conversation open to the public, at the College of the Arts of the University of Coimbra, at 10am. This is an initiative of the Sonae//Serralves Project that aims to promote culture and bring communities closer to the Arts, introducing the artist to Portugal's audience.

The fact that the Sonae//Serralves Project is bringing together members of the Portuguese academic and creative universe with an internationally renowned artist such as Haegue Yang represents a major contribution to carrying out Sonae's mission and fostering a greater engagement of the entire civil society in the promotion of the Arts as a stimulating agent of social development.

Catarina Oliveira Fernandes, head of Communication, Brand and Social Responsibility at Sonae, claims: "At Sonae we are committed to stimulating creativity and innovation in our society and the Sonae//Serralves Project is one more initiative towards fulfilling this purpose of ours. In collaboration with the Serralves Foundation, this year we will be hosting the project's fourth edition, with the added value of involving universities and the public in general, thus contributing to spread knowledge even further".

Additionally, the Sonae//Serralves 2016 Project included the organisation of a competition with the consequent selection of three Portuguese students from Fine Arts to work closely with the artist in the production of her work. As of now, Haegue Yang is already in collaboration with Nuno Pimenta, from the University of Porto, Pedro Piris Serrano, from the University of Lisbon, and Tiago Costa from the University of Évora.

This initiative is part of the fourth edition of the Sonae//Serralves Project, where artists are invited to create new work in close connection with the architectural, historic and natural context of Serralves and the country. This edition will culminate with the installation of the artist's new work at the Serralves Park, an exclusively created piece that will be exhibited between 22 June and 11 December.

Context and localisation are fundamental aspects in the work of the Korean artist, one of the most featured of her generation. Her sculptural language includes everyday objects and materials we can find at our own homes and everywhere around us, such as blinders, clothes lines, decorative lighting, heaters, air fresheners, or fans. These are the raw material for the creation of spectacular fluctuant environments

and installations crowded with totemic figures, frequently conceived as movement choreographies in which the sculpture and the spectator are active participants.

Haegue Yang has created big dimension pieces for the South Korea Pavilion at the 53rd Venice Biennale in 2009, for the Kunsthaus Bregenz in Austria and for the Leeum, Samsung Museum of Art of Seoul, in Korea. Her latest big dimension works are Approaching: Choreography Engineered in Never-Past Tense, a vast kinetic installation built at the former train station of Kassel, in Germany, for the Documenta 13; and also An Opaque Wind, an outdoors sculptural intervention produced in 2015 for the 12th Sharjah Biennale, in the United Arab Emirates. Her work has been on show in exhibitions at the MoMA, New York (2015), the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York (2015), the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Strasbourg (2013), the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston (2013), the Haus der Kunst, Munich (2012), the Tate Modern, London (2012), the New Museum, New York (2010) and at the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (2009), among others.

6 MAY, 10AM
College of the Arts of the University of Coimbra

Artist Biography

Haegue Yang was born in South Korea in 1971. She completed her studies in Fine Arts in Seoul and at the prestigious Staedelschule in Frankfurt. Her work has been a part of exhibitions at: Leeum, Samsung Museum of Art, Seoul (2015); MoMA, New York (2015); Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York (2015); Bergen Kunsthalle, Bergen (2013); Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Strasbourg (2013); Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston (2013); Haus der Kunst, Munich (2012); Tate Modern, London (2012); Aspen Art Museum, Aspen (2011); Arnolfini, Bristol (2011); New Museum, New York (2010), and Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (2009).
In 2009, Yang represented South Korea at the 53rd Venice Biennale. In 2012, she participated in Documenta 13, at Kassel. In 2015, she was a resident artist at Atelier Calder, Saché, France. Haegue Yang lives and works between Berlin and Seoul. She teaches Fine Arts at the Malmö Art Academy, in Sweden.

About Sonae

Sonae is a multinational company managing a diversified portfolio of businesses in retail, financial services, technology, shopping centres and telecommunications. Present in over 70 countries, it reached a turnover of more than 5 billion euros by the end of 2015.
Sonae develops an active social responsibility policy and is Founder of the Serralves Foundation. Sonae believes it can contribute towards promoting the social and cultural wellbeing of the communities where it is implemented. Thus, is has been long encouraging a cultural development by supporting activities, projects and events organised in partnership with other organisations. Sonae supports its community in six different priority areas: environmental awareness, culture, education, health and sports, science and innovation and social solidarity.