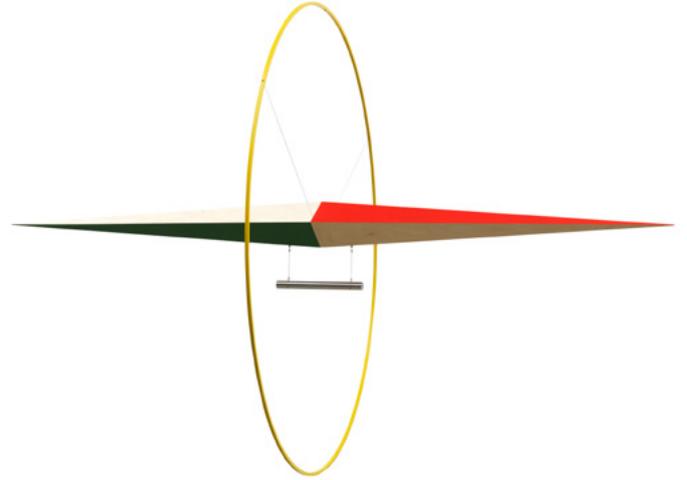


Olafur Eliasson

በጊዜ ላይ ጊዜ

Time-sensitive activity
27 February – 15 April 2015
Modern Art Museum:
Gebre Kristos Desta Center
Addis Ababa University





**New Works by Olafur Eliasson at the Modern Art Museum:
Gebre Kristos Desta Center, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia**

በጊዜ ላይ ጊዜ (*Time-sensitive activity*), opening at the Modern Art Museum, Addis Ababa, on **26** February, presents an exciting array of artworks by the internationally acclaimed Danish-Icelandic artist Olafur Eliasson.

The artist's first solo exhibition in the region features works revolving around concepts like light, orientation, mirroring, and ephemerality – topics that have informed Eliasson's practice for years. The show brings together outstanding new works, such as *Life of a planet*; *Crystal nebula*; *Addis compass*; and *The complete sphere lamp*, a series specifically developed and produced in Ethiopia; with a selection of seminal older works, including *Colour space embracer*, 2005, and *Yellow corridor*, 1997.

በጊዜ ላይ ጊዜ (*Time-sensitive activity*) offers an insightful glimpse into the physicality of Eliasson's artworks and their incredible ability to transcend conventional perceptions. Through a simple query of what it means to be a subject in a specific context, Eliasson challenges visitors to the exhibition to be perceptive of things they usually take for granted. Eliasson presents visitors with artistic concepts and practices that emphasise the centrality of creativity, poise agency in the creation of images, and are reflective and constitutive of the visitors' environment.

The exhibition came about through Olafur Eliasson's long-term engagement with Ethiopia and, in particular, the city of Addis Ababa, a relationship that has intensified over the last decade.

In 2012, Eliasson relocated his Institut für Raumexperimente (Institute for Spatial Experiments), an experimental platform for arts education (2009–14) affiliated with the Berlin University of the Arts, to Addis Ababa for an intense programme of artistic exchange and educational collaboration. Hosted by the Alle School of Fine Arts and Design at Addis Ababa University, the ten-week residency culminated in a three-day marathon of art events at Jan Meda Park. Eliasson continues to cultivate ties with Ethiopia through his activity as adjunct professor at the Alle School of Fine Arts and Design and through large-scale projects in public space.

A richly illustrated **exhibition catalogue**, produced with the kind support of the Goethe-Institut in Addis Ababa, will be available from mid-March with contributions by esteemed professor of law and philosophy Andreas Esheté, curator and educator Elizabeth W. Giorgis, Olafur Eliasson, and the poets and artists Bekele Mekonnen and Mihret Kebede.

Also available from mid-March is a book containing four lectures given by Olafur Eliasson in 2012 at the Alle School of Fine Arts and Design, University of Addis Ababa. Titled *Turning Thinking into Doing into Art: Lectures in Addis Ababa*, the book will be published by the Institut für Raumexperimente, in English and Amharic.

Olafur Eliasson (born 1967) is a visual artist who works in a wide range of media, including installation, painting, sculpture, photography, and film. Since 1997, his critically acclaimed solo shows have appeared in major museums around the world, such as the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Tate Modern, London; Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Denmark; and the Venice Biennale. Established in 1995, his Berlin studio today numbers about eighty craftsmen, architects, and art historians. From 2009 to 2014, Eliasson ran the Institut für Raumexperimente as a professor at the Berlin University of the Arts, and in 2014, he became an adjunct professor at the Alle School of Fine Arts and Design in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. In 2012, Eliasson founded the social business Little Sun, together with engineer Frederik Ottesen, to produce and distribute solar lamps for use in off-grid communities. Eliasson lives and works in Copenhagen and Berlin.

Founded in 2005, the **Modern Art Museum: Gebre Kristos Desta Center** of Addis Ababa University is dedicated to Ethiopia's celebrated modern painter, and houses the finest collection of his paintings. The only modern art museum in the country, the museum is committed to promoting multifaceted experiences of modern and contemporary art and to presenting artists both from Ethiopia and abroad through exhibitions and educational programmes.

Press images for download:
olafureliasson.net/addisababa

olafureliasson.net
littlesun.com
raumexperimente.net

Press contacts:

Elizabeth Giorgis
Modern Art Museum
Gebre Kristos Desta Center, Addis Ababa
(Ethiopia) +251 911366283

Twitter: @olafureliasson
Facebook: [olafureliasson.net/facebook](https://www.facebook.com/olafureliasson.net/)
Instagram: [studiolafureliasson](https://www.instagram.com/studiolafureliasson)

Alice Broughton
Studio Olafur Eliasson, Berlin
(Germany) +49 30 2000 391 39
alice.broughton@olafureliasson.net