



REVOLUTIONS  
-FORMS  
THAT TURN  
2008  
BIENNALE  
OF SYDNEY

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The Biennale of Sydney in association with the Sydney Opera House presents

## A Forest of Lines

A special event by the world renowned contemporary artist Pierre Huyghe

From midday on July 9th to midday on July 10th, visitors can step into Pierre Huyghe's visionary image and be part of a living art work. Titled *A Forest of Lines*, this special event is a cornerstone of the 16th Biennale of Sydney and one of over 50 new works presented in 2008. Entry is free of charge, and access will be in **sessions subject to availability and capacity** - visitors can check session times on the Biennale of Sydney website: [www.bos2008.com](http://www.bos2008.com)

In the Opera House Concert Hall, a forest of trees has strangely grown. The forest is on the stage, in the stalls, in the circles. Huyghe creates a unique experience, with no beginning and no end, no division between stage and audience, no specified direction or path to take – it is a theatre liberated from its rules.

In a special 24-hour event, the world renowned French artist will transform the iconic Sydney Opera House, with a forest supplanting its seats, a dawn-like light replacing its usual theatrical light and colour, and fog hovering low over the floor. This major artist's project of the 16th Biennale of Sydney, *A Forest of Lines*, is a magical journey into contemporary art.

You are in a ghostly, in-between reality with a soothing, phantasmagoric quality. The light is that of dawn, and mist covers the lower part of the hall and the stage. From the entrance at the top of the hall, you see a valley obscured by clouds. Someone is walking between the trees and singing. Her lyrics draw the audience, who are wearing headlights, into the forest. Her song tells of how to find a way out. By tracing the experience from the Concert Hall back to the growers of the trees, back to a real place elsewhere, the song teaches us how to reach a special place in an Australian forest.

Artistic Director Carolyn Christov-Bakargiev, says:

Pierre Huyghe is one of the most important practicing artists of our time. *A Forest of Lines* will doubtless go down in history as one of the great contemporary art events of the 21st century, and to have this here in Sydney is very exciting. It is a great honour to be able to bring this project to the Biennale of Sydney.

We are grateful to the Sydney Opera House for their support of the artist's vision. People must truly share in this to realise exceptional projects such as this one. And we are lucky to have found people who share the vision and the simple joy of this unique work of art.

Huyghe has been creating a variety of artworks and collaborative projects since the early 1990s and his practise has earned him a reputation as one of the most experimental artists of his generation. Evident in his works is a recurring desire to introduce pleasure, play and childhood fantasy into art.

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Born in Paris in 1962, Pierre Huyghe now lives and works in Paris and Los Angeles. In 2002 he received the Hugo Boss Prize from the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, and in 2001 he received a Golden Lion for the French Pavilion at the Venice Biennale. Solo exhibitions of his work have been held at Museo Serralves, Oporto (1999); Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven (2001); Kunsthaus, Bregenz (2002); Dia Art Foundation, New York (2003); Castello di Rivoli, Turin (2004); and ARC, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris and Tate Modern, London (2006).

*A Forest of Lines* is made possible through the generous support of The Ellipse Foundation – Contemporary Art Collection, Portugal and Marian Goodman Gallery, New York and Paris.

Presented by the Biennale of Sydney (2008) in association with the Sydney Opera House.

*A Forest of Lines* has also been produced with assistance from CULTURESFRANCE, the Embassy of France in Australia, Lumens Arte, Rent-A-Garden (Terrey Hills) and the Technical Direction Company of Aust (TDC).

Entry is free and will be in sessions. Please check website for details: [www.bos2008.com](http://www.bos2008.com)

The Biennale of Sydney advises that due to the extraordinary nature of this once-in-a-lifetime experience, it is anticipated that large numbers of people will attend. Those wishing to view the work can expect long delays and some may not be admitted. Queuing will be required.

Viewing the work will involve walking up and down many stairs and there is therefore limited access for people with mobility difficulties.

The 16th Biennale of Sydney, *Revolutions – Forms That Turn*, continues until Sunday, 7 September 2008 in venues across Sydney and online.  
Artistic Director, Carolyn Christov-Bakargiev

For more information about the exhibition, venues and events, go to: [www.bos2008.com](http://www.bos2008.com)

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