

# DEUTSCHER RECHSTUEDE PAVILLION 2013 AI WEIWEI ROMUALD KARMAKAR SANTU MOFOKENG DAYANITA SINGH

1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE TO 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2013  
55<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL ART EXHIBITION  
LA BIENNALE DI VENEZIA



## France and Germany exchange Pavilions

### Information on the German contribution to the 55th International Art Exhibition - La Biennale di Venezia

Dear Sirs or Madams,

Christine Macel, curator of the French pavilion and Chief Curator of the Musée National d'Art Moderne – Centre Pompidou, Paris, and Anri Sala, the artist representing France, as well as Susanne Gaensheimer, the curator of the German pavilion and Director of the MMK Museum für Moderne Kunst Frankfurt am Main, and the artists whom she has invited, Ai Weiwei, Romuald Karmakar, Santu Mofokeng, and Dayanita Singh, have decided to exchange the German and French Pavilions for the 55th International Art Exhibition - La Biennale Venezia.

At the beginning of this year the foreign ministers of France and Germany suggested exchanging the two countries' pavilions for the 55th International Art Exhibition - La Biennale Venezia in 2013. This idea has been repeatedly discussed over the past ten years, and in 2012 the curators and the artists decided to jointly discuss the possibility. After very constructive conversations and numerous tours of each pavilion in Venice, all parties agreed to the suggestion.

A fundamental consideration was the current working reality of the art world, in which international cooperation and communication has become a matter of course—an art world in which the dialogue between cultural spheres has much greater influence than the impermeability of national borders. These transnational everyday realities demonstrate to what extent the contemporary art world gathers European cultures together in a large, international network. The curators and the artists feel indebted to the notion of a shared European culture within the larger framework of the global cultural community.

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The German contribution is being commissioned by the Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany and will be realized in cooperation with the Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen (ifa). The temporary website for the German Pavilion is already accessible and will be further developed in the coming weeks and months:

<http://www.deutscher-pavillon.org>.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes,

Markus Müller

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La Biennale di Venezia

55. Esposizione  
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**Press photos:**

Press photos are available for download under [www.mmk-frankfurt.de/de/presse/pressebilder](http://www.mmk-frankfurt.de/de/presse/pressebilder)