

# FAENA ARTS CENTER PRESENTS RICHARD LONG'S MENDOZA WALKING, THE ARTIST'S INAUGURAL EXHIBITION IN ARGENTINA

Following his seventeen-day journey through the Tupungato and Cordón del Plata in the Andes mountains of Mendoza Argentina, the renowned British artist, Richard Long, has created two site-specific works inspired by the topography and nature of the country.



On view through July 28, 2014

Installation view of Mendoza Walking at the Faena Arts Center. Photo by Nikolas Koenig.

July 2, 2014 (Buenos Aires) – **Faena Arts Center** presents *Mendoza Walking*, **Richard Long**'s first exhibition in Argentina and first solo show in Latin America, curated by Faena Arts Center (FAC) Director and Chief Curator, Ximena Caminos. The exhibition, which includes two new site-specific works, is installed in the historic *Los Molinos* Room of the FAC's landmark building. These works utilize materials native to the region and explore the relationship between art and nature, between human potential and environmental realities. The exhibition is on view from June 28 - July 28. The accompanying exhibition catalog includes an essay by Angela

Westwater, co-founder of Sperone Westwater, New York, which since its founding in 1975 has represented the artist.

For over forty years, Richard Long has pioneered *walking* as sculptural practice and, in so doing, has visited some of the world's most remote and wild landscapes. While informed by their specific environment, the artist's works transcend territorial limits. Long has said, "A path is the place of many journeys. It is there before and after the walk that I make on it."

Mendoza Walking, Richard Long's first exhibition in Argentina, is inspired by recent journeys through the Tupungato and Cordón del Plata in the Andes of Mendoza, Argentina, in particular his walk and sculpture made in sight of Aconcagua, the highest mountain in the Americas, as well as the artist's visits to Buenos Aires, el Paraná and Las Pampas. Long's work is the act of walking itself, the documentation of the walk in photography and text, the sculptures he makes in-situ, as he intervenes in the landscape, and finally the sculptures he makes specifically for the gallery utilizing materials such as clay, stone, and wood. Long invites visitors to share his intimate dialogue with Argentina's epic landscape through the installation of Andes-Paraná, a large-scale wall work made with mud from the Gauyracá stream of the Paraná delta on-site for the Los Molinos room of the FAC; Pampas Dreaming, a sculpture made with pine wood chips from Misiones, Argentina; the monumental text work Mendoza Walking; a selection of photographs of sculptures in the landscape throughout the Argentinian region Cuyo; and a smaller, narrative textwork from the same journey.

"Richard Long's organic and contemplative meditations in nature – which we are given access to in his installation for the historic site, Los Molinos – remind us of our own steps, the ephemeral and profound marks we leave on the surface of the earth and the possibilities that exist to develop our commitment to the natural world and reengage with our surroundings" says Caminos.

In the nature of things: Art about mobility, lightness and freedom. Simple creative acts of walking and marking about place, locality, time, distance, and measurement. Works using raw materials and my human scale in the reality of landscapes. *The music of stones, paths of shared footmarks, sleeping by the river's roar.* 

### - Richard Long

### Richard Long's Mendoza Walking

Open to the public from June 28 to July 28, 2014 on Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays from 12pm to 7pm.

Entrance Fee: \$40. Monday's free.

Faena Arts Center. Aimé Paine 1169. Tel. 4010 9233 / <u>www.faenaartscenter.org</u>

Press images can be downloaded here: <u>http://www.faenaflyers.com/long</u> Username: press Password: press2014

BFA images can be viewed here: <u>http://bfanyc.com/home/event/9589</u>

## **Richard Long**

Long was born in 1945 in Bristol, England, where he currently lives and works. He studied at West of England College of Art and at St. Martin's School of Art, London. Long was awarded the Turner Prize in 1989 and received the Praemium Imperiale Art Award in 2009. He has had numerous major solo exhibitions, including retrospectives, at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum (1986), the Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris (1993), the Setagaya Art Museum, Tokyo (1996), the Museo di Arte, Trento, Italy (2000), the Museu Serralves, Portugal (2001), Tate St. Ives, Cornwall (2002), San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (2006), Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh (2007), Musée d' Art moderne et d' Art contemporain de Nice (2008), Tate Britain, London (2009) and Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin (2010).

## The Space

The Faena Arts Center is Faena Group's center for arts and artistic experimentation, created to promote an interdisciplinary and international exhibition program and generate innovative cross-cultural research and creation. The Faena Group envisioned building a space where the best conditions and international standards for exhibiting art would coexist with the boldest and freest forms of creativity. Inaugurated in 2011, the Faena Arts Center rose out of the old machine room of an emblematic turn-of-the-twentieth century mill in the historic port of the Puerto Madero district—this history lends its name to the central FAC gallery space *Los Molinos*. The landmark building now forms the key piece in consolidating the concept of a new urban Art District, and given the site's architectural features and monumentality, encourages the creation of site-specific works and engagement with the particular and unique context of the space. The FAC maintains over 4,000m2 of exhibition space and is supported in its mission by HSBC and Citroën.

Major exhibitions of international contemporary artists include: *O bicho suspenso na paisagem*, by Ernesto Neto, curated by Jessica Morgan (September 2011); *Los Carpinteros*, by the Cuban collective of the same name (May 2012); *Walking South*, by Franz Ackermann (November 2012); *The liminal space trilogy*, by the Russian collective AES+F, curated by Sonia Becce (May 2013), *The Aleph*, a series of installations by Anthony McCall and Mischa Kuball (September 2013), *Fyodor's Performance Carousel* by Fyodor Pavlov-Andreevich and *Geometría Poética Social by* Agustina Woodgate (May 2014)

"We have an ongoing commitment to cultural exchange by sponsoring innovative projects that artistically enrich our community. We are especially proud to support the Faena Arts Center and offer our customers significant benefits for them to visit," says Marcela Remoli, Head of Marketing at HSBC Argentina. Luis Basavilbaso, General Director of CITROËN Argentina adds: "We continue yet another year with Faena Arts Center because we share in its groundbreaking style, creativity and innovation."

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