

The Museum of Modern Art

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PROJECTS: KARIN SANDER

April 28 - June 6, 1994

The Museum of Modern Art's next **PROJECTS** exhibition, on view from April 28 through June 6, 1994, is the first one-person museum exhibition in the United States devoted to the work of German artist Karin Sander (b. 1957). Organized by Anne Umland, curatorial assistant, Department of Painting and Sculpture, **PROJECTS: KARIN SANDER** explores the artist's unexpected transformation of everyday surfaces, as she both animates and delineates the spaces we walk into, over, under, and through.

Sander subtly alters wall and floor surfaces, both inside and outside the Museum, by applying carpet, fabric, or paint, and in some instances by manipulating them through polishing, burnishing, and sanding. The exhibition comprises three separate yet related works, all of them characteristically open to variations in light, movement, and architectural detail.

The first work in the exhibition, a large-scale floor sculpture made of AstroTurf, measuring over seventy-feet long and fifty-feet wide, flows out to the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden and back inside to the Garden Hall. Bisected by the Garden Hall's glass curtain wall, the sculpture itself becomes a surface for reflection and mirroring, extending the dialogue between interior and exterior space which unites all of Sander's work.

The next two works, within the Museum, are wall pieces made by repeatedly painting the walls white over a period of days, then sanding and repolishing the surfaces. The first of these covers most of three walls of

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the **PROJECTS** Garden Hall Gallery, and, due to the removal of the fourth wall, reflects the Sculpture Garden. The second piece, a smaller version of the first, appears elsewhere in the building, its location intentionally left undisclosed by the artist. These highly reflective works softly mirror their surroundings, bringing the outdoors inside in ghost-like form.

Karin Sander was born in Bensberg, West Germany, and now lives and works in Stuttgart and New York City. She studied at the Freie Kunstschule (1979) and the Staatliche Akademie der Bildenden Künste, Stuttgart (1981-87), and participated in the Whitney Museum of American Art's Independent Study/Studio Program (1989-90). The artist is a recipient of several grants and fellowships, including a D.A.A.D. scholarship (1989-90) and awards from the Kunstfond Bonn (1992), the Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart (1993-94), the Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris (1993-94), and the Villa Romana, Florence (1992-94).

The **PROJECTS** series is made possible by generous grants from the Lannan Foundation, The Bohlen Foundation, and the Contemporary Arts Council and The Junior Associates of The Museum of Modern Art. Additional support for this exhibition has been provided by Lufthansa German Airlines and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany/IfA Stuttgart. The next exhibition in the series is **PROJECTS: LUC COURCHESNE** (June 23 - October 23, 1994).

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