### **MEDIA RELEASE**

The Studio Museum in Harlem 144 West 125th Street New York, NY 10027 studiomuseum.org/press

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### **Opening Reception and Press Preview:**

6–8 pm, Friday, September 24, 2010 RSVP: spottinger@studiomuseum.org 212.864.4500 x255



# The Studio Museum in Harlem and the Goethe-Institut New York Announce *OFF/SITE*

Pioneering year-long collaboration begins September 24 with *Xaviera Simmons: junctures (transmissions to)* 



Xaviera Simmons in studio, 2009, Image courtesy Chris Sanders

**NEW YORK, September 10, 2010**—The Studio Museum in Harlem and the Goethe-Institut New York are joining forces for an innovative one-year collaboration: *OFF/SITE*. This unique partnership between two culturally specific institutions features artist projects and public programs in two iconic New York City neighborhoods, Harlem and the East Village.

OFF/SITE synthesizes the missions, histories and mandates of both institutions. The Studio Museum and the Goethe-Institut New York share a commitment to specific places, cultures and experiences as well as to global engagement with contemporary art and ideas. They are uniquely suited to co-present a series of exhibitions, performances, panels and screenings that interrogates concepts including geography, site-responsiveness, community and artistic practice.

Xaviera Simmons: junctures (transmissions to), OFF/SITE's inaugural project, will be on view at the Goethe-Institut Wyoming Building from September 24 to October 27, 2010. A public program featuring Simmons and junctures (transmissions to) collaborators will take place at the Studio Museum at 7 pm on Thursday, October 21. OFF/SITE will continue in Winter/Spring 2011 with an artist project from Marc Brandenburg, and the event series Up/Down, North/South: Three Evenings.

Over the five weeks of *junctures* (*transmissions to*), Xaviera Simmons will engage invited writers, academics, musicians, astrologers and others in a series of "micro-residencies," embracing the collaborative and multi-genre nature of the *OFF/SITE* project. Participants including artist **Brendan Fernandes**, filmmaker **Sophie Hamacher**, landscape architect and surfer **Benjamin Landers**, singer/songwriter **Austin McCutchen**, and historian and singer **Teresa Mora** will join Simmons in a closed, site-specific wooden studio structure within the Wyoming Building. The studio will be equipped with a slide projector, digital projector, microphone, amplification system and commercial-grade copy machine; the gallery will serve as home to several live finches for the duration of the project. In the gallery the artist and her collaborators will create an ever-changing installation of photocopies, projections, staged readings, sound recordings and ephemera reflecting the conversations and activity within the studio.

Weekly project updates, blog posts and a full collaborator list will be available at studiomuseum.org.

## About Xaviera Simmons

Brooklyn-based Xaviera Simmons (b. 1974, New York) works in a wide range of media, including photography, sculpture, installation, performance and sound. She received her BFA in photography at Bard College, and in 2005 completed the Whitney Museum of American Art Independent Study Program in Studio Art while completing a two-year Meisner actor training program with The Maggie Flanigan Studio. She has held multiple residencies and has exhibited in solo and group exhibitions at institutions locally, nationally and internationally, including MoMA PS1, New York; The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York; The Nasher Museum at Duke University, Durham, NC; and The Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston.

### Hours and Location

The **Goethe-Institut Wyoming Building** is located at 5 East 3rd Street (between Bowery and 2nd Ave), New York, New York.

Xaviera Simmons and her collaborators will be in the Goethe-Institut Wyoming Building studio space on **Wednesday**, **5:30–9pm** and **Saturday**, **2–5:45 pm**.

The installation will be on view throughout the Goethe-Institut Wyoming Building's opening hours, **Tuesday and Thursday–Saturday**, **1–6 pm**, and **Wednesday**, **1–9 pm**.

**The Studio Museum in Harlem** is located at 144 West 125<sup>th</sup> Street (between Malcolm X and Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Boulevards) New York, New York.

The Museum is open **Thursday and Friday**, **12–9 pm**, **Saturday 10–6 pm**, and **12–6pm on Target Free Sundays**. Current exhibitions include **Zwelethu Mthethwa**: **Inner Views** and **Usable Pasts**: 2009-10 Artists in Residence: Meguitta Ahuja, Lauren Kelley, Valerie Piraino

# About the Presenters

The Studio Museum in Harlem is a nexus for black artists locally, nationally and internationally, and for work that has been inspired by black culture. It is a site for the dynamic exchange of ideas about art and society. For more information visit **studiomuseum.org** 

The Goethe-Institut is the Federal Republic of Germany's official cultural institution, with a network that operates worldwide. Encouraging international cultural exchange, it fosters knowledge about Germany by providing information on its cultures, society and politics.

For more information visit goethe.de/newyork



