



news release

10 February 2009

Horsecross launches most ambitious contemporary art commission to date

Picture call: 5pm, Wednesday, 25 February 2009, Threshold artspace, Perth Concert Hall. Light refreshments provided. Ergin Çavuşoğlu, artist, Iliyana Nedkova, Horsecross creative director (contemporary art) and screening of new commission.

Artist Ergin Çavuşoğlu and a multinational ten-strong cast and crew spent five windswept days on the West Coast of Scotland in January filming his most recent artwork *Voyage of No Return*, a new Horsecross commission for its Threshold artspace.

Currently showing on the twenty two screen Threshold Wave at Perth Concert Hall, *Voyage of No Return* is Horsecross' most ambitious contemporary art commission to date and the first solo exhibition to feature on the video installations that dominate the stunning Glassrooms area at the Fair City's newest and most exciting arts venue.

Inspired by Italo Calvino's *Invisible Cities* and Marcel Broodthaers' film *Un Voyage en Mer du Nord*, *Voyage of No Return* takes the form of a short feature film. Shot on location in Oban, the film deals with the notion of a city and its harbour which only witness departures, and no returns – a particularly poignant subject in this year of Homecoming when it is hoped that many Scottish migrants will choose to revisit their country of origin.

Seen through the eyes of a father and son, the piece also considers universal issues of mobility and family ties, which the artist hopes will have resonance with visitors who will experience this multiple-screen video art installation at the artspace.

Çavuşoğlu says:



news release

“Migrations happen all the time for personal, economic or other reasons and all of us have experienced this in some way. Very often, leaving, and the decisions behind it have profound effects on family relationships and dynamics - the father and son dialogue in Voyage of No Return explores some of these issues in a broader philosophical sense.

I was inspired by the striking landscape around Oban - the function of its port as gateway to the isles and the fact that it has a history of departures was particularly relevant to the work. McCaig’s Tower the local ‘folly’ which, as well as the harbour provides a focal point for the film is both architecturally and historically fascinating. Shooting the piece in winter, whilst practically challenging, gave it the subdued atmosphere I was looking for.”

Also on view at the Threshold artspace are three of the artist’s earlier films recreated as 22-channel video installations - Midnight Express, Empire (after Andy Warhol) and Fog Walking collectively induce a sense of nocturnal transience and gloomy foreboding.

In addition, the exhibition features Ergin Çavuşoğlu’s own pick and mix from the Horsecross collection including Jason Dee’s new commission, x24, sparkling with the glamorous flavour of 1950s Hollywood.

Iliyana Nedkova Horsecross creative director (contemporary art) said:

“It is a real coup for Horsecross to secure a commission by Ergin Çavuşoğlu. We are delighted to be able to add exhibition copies of Voyage of No Return, as well as Ergin’s recent trilogy, to our growing collection of contemporary art – Scotland’s one and only permanent public collection of its kind,

“It has been so inspiring to work with Ergin on developing these new works over the last year that we will soon launch another lasting legacy of the project – a limited edition



news release

Voyage of No Return photograph which will be Horsecross' latest offer for collectable contemporary art from our new initiative Collect + Support."

Voyage of No Return and other works by Ergin Çavuşoğlu are initially showing at the Threshold artspace located at Perth Concert Hall from 31 January – 3 March 2009. For further information on these free exhibitions contact the Horsecross Box Office on 0044 (0)1738 621031 or visit www.horsecross.co.uk

Notes to editors

1. *Launched in September 2005, Threshold artspace is about positioning Perth and Scotland within the contemporary art world at large through commissioning, producing, exhibiting, publishing and collecting.*
2. *Voyage of No Return is co-produced by the artist and Horsecross for Threshold artspace in partnership with 55degrees, Glasgow, Haunch of Venison, London, and Galerist, Istanbul. Supported by the University of Portsmouth and the Scottish Arts Council.*
3. *The exhibition is accompanied by a new issue of Read More – Horsecross journal of critical writing ISSN 1755-0866 (Online) – featuring a newly commissioned essay about selected works from the collection.*
4. *An off-site event: Ergin Çavuşoğlu: Artist's Talk will be held at Dundee Contemporary Arts, Dundee, 11am, Wednesday, 25 February 2009. Horsecross presents this talk in partnership with the University of Dundee. To book a place on this free but ticketed event, please visit www.dca.org.uk or phone 0044 (0) 1382 909 900*
5. *Free Guided Curatorial Tours of Voyage of New Return are available by prior arrangement with Iliyana Nedkova, Creative Director (Contemporary Art) at inedkova@horsecross.co.uk*



news release

Voyage of No Return

Principal Cast and Crew

Script Writer and Artist/Director - Ergin Çavuşoğlu

Script Writer - Arnold Barkus

Principal Actor, Old Man - Graham Padden

Principal Actor, Young Man - Peter Barfield

Director of Photography (DOP) - Emre Erkmen

DOP Assistant - Jürgen Daum

Production Manager - Susan Doak

Sound Recordist - Chris Campion

Sound Assistant - Andy Walsh

Grip - Mark Dorris

Extras - Spotlight Musical Theatre Group, Oban

Media contact

*Pam Dochard, Media Relations, pdochard@horsecross.co.uk, tel 0044 (0)1738 477728,
mob 0044 (0)7884 017199.*

ENDS