

De: Emilio Santisteban em o@em osant steban.org
Asunto: "Abrazar" (To hug / embrac ng someth ng.)
Fecha: February 17, 2014 at 12:21 AM
Para: [REDACTED]

[Original spanish version below]

Dear Esra:

My name is Emilio Santisteban, artist of Peru (South America). I want to thank you for being one of the first people to accept to be part of the art project that I will perform in Sandleiten as part of SOHO festival, in Ottakring, during May, 2014. For me it is a very special occasion. Although I have exhibited my work in Europe since 1996, is my first time in Vienna. I will do my best to make this project an interesting experience for people in Sandleiten.

Let me give you a quick detailed explanation of the Project. You only have to choose to participate in one (or two) of the four parts that the project contains, doing very simple things that you find interesting, without taking much of your time.

The title of the project in Spanish, my native language, is "Abrazar" (To hug / embracing something.) "Abrazar" is a participatory art project, in wich I don't create the work by myself, but from some general characteristics proposed by me, the work takes its form and exact meaning thanks to the people involved in it. The principal component of the project is precisely Sandleitenhof people, their lifestyle, how they relate to each other, their feelings and customs, and how they want to interact with people from other places.

"Abrazar" is a tetralogy, it is a set of four works. Each work is independent but the four are related to each other and complement each other. I will be very grateful that you choose to participate in one of these works, or if you prefer, in more than one. The works are titled "Conocer" (knowing; meet someone), "Saber" (knowledge; wisdom; be flavor, be tasty), "Aprender" (learn), and "Comprender" (understand meaning; understand ideas; understand another's feelings and minds).

"Conocer" is a work of mail-art that is done by letters, postcards, pictures and exchange between the persons through the post mail. In this work, Sandleitenhof people communicate with Lima (Peru's capital) people whatever they want and become friends, describing on what life is in their localities, sending photos and postcards. There are seventeen people in Lima expecting letters from seventeen or more Sandleitenhof people. Letters may be in Spanish, English, German, French, or Italian. The exchange of letters period begins on February 24 and ends on May 17, and you can start and finish sending at any time during the period. Not required to write a lot, you decide how much.

"Saber" is a work of art – email that is done through written emails to participants. In this work the people of Lima exchange with people from

Sandleitenhof recipes about what they eat at home, and photos of the dishes they prepare. The idea is that while write you make friends teaching each other food recipes of their countries and also combining recipes in order to create some new dishes . With the recipes exchanged Sandleitenhof and Lima usual meals and with new recipes invented by the participants, we will edit a cookbook that will be distributed free at Sandleitenhof . There are seven people in Lima who are waiting to receive emails from Sandleitenhof seven or more people written in Spanish, English or German. The exchange of e- mails begins after 24 February (when you want) and ends before 17 April (when you decide) . There is no need to write very often, or more than one person, you decide that.

"Aprender" is a work of art process that takes the form of an exchange of lessons. The idea is that some people from Sandleitenhof will teach me how to work on one or two things from their regular jobs, and in return I will teach one or two key things about performance art. This will not be by mail or email instead of that i will do workshops in Vienna (17 to 31 May), and people who wish to participate will need to email me between February and April to agree before my trip. At the end the result will be that I will make one or more of a performance art using what I learned, and if participants wish may make performance art using what they have learned as well. The workshops begin Sandleiten about May 25 and ends about May 29.

"Comprender" is a work of art intervention in urban space , and is also a work of art – email . Basically consist in people who wish to participate by email several times between February and April. In our conversations I will tell them about life in our communities , especially on relations between people of different backgrounds, and together we will think about doing some questions to community residents in Sandleitenhof . Those questions will be printed in large format and will be placed in various public places in Sandleitenhof . May be several different questions to be added to two questions that I'd like to make : Do you want a hug ? Do you want to give a hug ? . Questions will be written in several languages spoken in Sandleitenhof , in a special way that will give them an enigmatic look , curious yet beautiful, combining all languages into cartoon character in Chinese, of great visual beauty. The exchange of e- mails begins after 24 February (when you want) and ends before 17 April (when you decide) . No need to write very often.

Please tell me what do you think about this. Would you like to participate in one or more of these four works? Do you want me to send you the addresses and information about people of Lima to decide who do you want to write to?

If you know people in Sandleitenhof who would like to participate in? Could you please tell these people what I have told you and encourage them to write me? And would you send me the e-mails of those people to write them about?

Looking forward for your response with much enthusiasm.

*Best regards.
Emilio Santisteban.*