



July 29, 1993
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CAPP STREET PROJECT PREMIERES NEW INSTALLATION BY ARTIST FRED WILSON AT HISTORIC HAAS-LILLIENTHAL HOUSE

Exhibition Dates: August 20 - October 3, 1993

Exhibition Hours: Wednesday - Friday, Sunday: 12 - 4 pm
Saturday: 10 - 3 pm
Closed Saturday, September 25th
Note: Guided Tours will be provided.

Location: Haas-Lillienthal House
2007 Franklin Street, San Francisco

Admission: Thursday - Saturday: Free
Wednesday & Sunday: \$4 (includes tour of house)

Reception for the Artist: Thursday, August 19th
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Artist Talk: Saturday, September 18th: 2 pm
Admission free

Illustrated Slide Lecture: "The Silent Message of the Museum"
Sunday, August 22nd: 1 pm
James Moore Theater at the Oakland Museum
Admission free

San Francisco - Visual artist Fred Wilson will premiere his first installation in the Bay Area at the historic Haas-Lillienthal House in Pacific Heights during a three month residency at Capp Street Project. Titled *An Invisible Life: A View Into the World of a 120 Year Old Man*, the installation tells the story of a fictitious 120 year old man through the photographs, letters, books and personal artifacts he left behind. Presented in a mock museum format, *An Invisible Life* calls into question the ways in which we assign values to objects and create narrative histories. While similar to past works in its mode of presentation, *An Invisible Life* marks a new approach in Wilson's work as it operates on an individual rather than an institutional scale. Guided tours will be provided during exhibition hours.

In recent years, Fred Wilson's work has drawn attention from both contemporary art

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circles as well as the museum establishment. Wilson's installations, which mimic museum exhibits, both critique the institutionalized practices of display and scholarship, and enliven the status of artifacts and encourage viewers to seek their own personal or cultural histories in museological displays. This is often accomplished through provocative juxtapositions or the subversion of traditional display formats.

My hope is that museums become places that enrich and stimulate the public's lives emotionally as well as on an intellectual level within the displayed art's historical and sociological context. - Fred Wilson, April, 1992

Fred Wilson is a visual artist of African-American and Carib descent who lives in New York. His recent projects include *Primitivism: High and Low* at Metro Pictures (New York, 1991); *Mining the Museum* at the Maryland Historical Society (Baltimore, 1992); and *The Museum: Mixed Metaphors* at the Seattle Art Museum (1993). In addition to his own work as an artist, Wilson has been active in the arts at both community and national levels. In the 1970's, he spent several years as a free lance museum educator for the Metropolitan Musuem of Art, the American Museum of Natural History, and the American Craft Museum. He has served as a board member of the National Association of Artist Organizations, Vice-President of Artists Space and as a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts.

Special funding for Fred Wilson's residency and exhibition has been provided by the Flintridge and Lannan Foundations. The Haas-Lillienthal House is a property of the Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage.

Capp Street Project is a non-profit arts organization that presents artist residencies, temporary public installations, experimental exhibitions, educational workshops, lectures and performances, and maintains a public archive on installation art and artists.

For more information, photographs, or interviews with the artist, contact
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