



The 12th Istanbul Biennial opened its doors on Thursday, September, 15th 2011

The 12th Istanbul Biennial ranked among the most important art events in Europe along with the Venice Biennale, will turn Istanbul one again into an art platform being watched with interest by the world art communities starting in the month of September.

The Istanbul Biennial which will remain on view until November 13, 2011, explores the rich relationship between art and politics, focusing on artworks that are both formally innovative and politically outspoken. It takes as its point of departure the work of the Cuban American artist Felix Gonzalez-Torres (1957-1996). Gonzalez-Torres was deeply attuned to both the personal and the political, and also rigorously attentive to the formal aspects of artistic production, integrating high modernist, minimal, and conceptual references with themes of everyday life.

The biennial is composed of five group exhibitions and more than 50 solo presentations, all housed in a single venue, Anıtkabir 3 and 5. The 12th Istanbul Biennial opened its doors to national and international press on Thursday, September 15, with an official opening ceremony and a press conference at Anıtkabir 3. Bülent Eczacıbaşı, chairman of the board of İKSİV, gave the opening speech of the ceremony. He said: "The Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts organized the first Istanbul Biennial in 1987. Since then, Istanbul and the biennial have grown, evolved, and gained prominence in concert with one another. The biennial has contributed to the development of Istanbul as a capital of culture and the arts, and Istanbul has received the biennial with open arms, continually renewing the energy of this event with its rich history, contemporary dynamism, and potential. In 1999, the biennial reached 40 thousand people; in 2009 more than 100,000 art enthusiasts attended the biennial and its related events. At the beginning of the 2000s, the number of private museums in



our city could be counted on one hand; now we count them by the dozens. Moreover, the number of exhibitions taking place in Istanbul, home to more than 100 art galleries, is rising steadily every year. This increase in the production and consumption of art over the last decade fills us with hope for what we can achieve in the decade ahead. In 2023, when we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Turkish Republic, Turkey aims to be one of the world's top 10 economies. Our hope is that our cultural industry enjoys a share of this targeted economic growth. A society that reads more books, visits more exhibitions, goes to more concerts and increases its involvement in art and culture activities is a society that will achieve all kinds of targets more easily and quickly.

INTRA Tours Destination Turkey Academy was in Milan last week



On September the 15th, Intra Tours hosted a half day seminar with the participation of Turkish Airlines and 16 of the most important Milan based M.I.C.E agencies.

The aim of seminar was pointing out Turkey's potential to the M.I.C.E market players and also briefly outlining the destination services, accommodation alternatives, land and air transportation solutions offered by Intra Tours - DMC.

The participants followed Mr Ertugrul Karaoglu's presentation about Turkey and the new geographical areas that may be offered to the MICE segment. This was followed Turkish Airlines' Latif Sahin's presentation of the Flag Carrier Turkish Airlines- which has also received recently the award "The Best European Airline" by Skytrax.

Intra Tours' MICE coordinator, Ms. Pinar Gundogdu took the stage and completed the training project by explaining the MICE product range of the destination expert Intra Tours and illustrated some event examples offered.

The destination training gave the opportunity to refresh and analyze the event and outdoor alternatives and to catch a glimpse of the new products offered in Turkey.

Turkey continues to be the ideal location for incentive and corporate events and meetings through easy accessibility and convenient flight connections, ideal team building places, prestigious venues and finally excellent value for price accommodation solutions.

After the seminar, and the question and answers session- certificates were handed and a luncheon was held at the Ramada Hotel.

