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**KUNSTHALLE wien**



Fußball am Zug

## **The artist SPENCER TUNICK invites the nude mass to the Ernst-Happel-Stadium in Vienna**

**PRESS CONFERENCE: Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 10 am**

**Kunsthalle Wien project space, Treitlstr. 2, A-1040 Vienna**

Kunsthalle Wien, the Kunst im öffentlichen Raum GmbH and “2008 – Österreich am Ball” invite the New York artist Spencer Tunick after almost a decade to Vienna to stage and document one of his widely celebrated posed installations of multiple nude figures. Spencer Tunick hosts the event on May 11<sup>th</sup> at the Ernst-Happel-Stadium, where the Final Soccer Game of the UEFA EURO 2008™ will take place.

**People wanting to take part in the installation can register at: [www.tunickvienna.at](http://www.tunickvienna.at)**

Spencer Tunick has already photographed thousands of nude people for his installations in downtown New York, London, Amsterdam, and Caracas. In 2007 he realized his largest installation to date in Mexico City, where he photographed 18,000 people at once. Also in 2007, 600 people followed him up the Swiss Aletsch Glacier and stripped naked at about ten degrees Celsius to draw attention to global warming and the shrinking of the world's glaciers. One of the pictures from the series documenting the Aletsch Glacier installation, which was organized in close collaboration with Greenpeace, was labeled “one of the best pictures of the year 2007” by the Time Magazine.

As a matter of principle, all of Spencer Tunick's participants in the photographed and filmed installations are volunteers. In return for their participation they receive a limited edition installation photograph. Tunick describes the participants as “living sculptures” or “body landscapes” and has been cause for considerable stir with his public assemblages of nude people over the years. Most of time the artist aims at contrasting his sculptures, arranged of multiple live human bodies, with the rigid aesthetics of urban structures.

The Ernst-Happel-Stadium will be the location of his Vienna installation.

The ÖBB support this unique art project with their environmentally friendly supply and provide altogether 2008 participants a free train ticket within Austria. The ÖBB prove again to be a supportive partner, when it is important to transport people in a comfortable and non-polluting way. The artist is also encouraging people from neighboring countries and cities to come to Vienna and be part of this memorable artwork.



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The photographs and films made by Spencer Tunick in the Vienna football stadium will be on display at the Kunsthalle Wien public space starting on June 24<sup>th</sup>. In the course of the exhibition opening the participants of the installation will receive their installation photograph.

Since 1994 Spencer Tunick has realized a total of more than 75 installations. In 1992 he started documenting live nude individual portraits on the streets of New York and in 1994 Tunick gathered 28 people nude in front of the United Nations in New York City making his first group nude installation artwork. His photographs quickly became a subject of discussion throughout the US. Since the middle of the 1990's Tunick has been organizing his installations all over the world; already in 1999 he realized an installation commissioned by the Kunsthalle Wien in the public space.

**Curated by:** Gerald Matt (Kunsthalle Wien), Jürgen Weishäupl („2008 – Österreich am Ball“)

**Please, register for participation in the Vienna installation at**

**[www.tunickvienna.at](http://www.tunickvienna.at)**

**Installation in the Ernst-Happel-Stadium: Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

**Time to be announced 10 days before the installation date.**

**Exhibition Opening:**

**Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008: 8.30 pm, Kunsthalle Wien public space karlsplatz**

Press Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Kunsthalle Wien  
Claudia Bauer, Katharina Murschetz  
Phone+43-1-521 89-1221  
Fax +43-1-521 89-1260  
[presse@kunsthallewien.at](mailto:presse@kunsthallewien.at)

„2008 - Österreich am Ball“  
Julia Fuchs  
Phone +43-1-241 20 -5309  
Cell +43-664-502 1439  
Fax +43-1-24220-5311  
[jf@oesterreich-am-ball.at](mailto:jf@oesterreich-am-ball.at)

ÖBB-Holding AG  
Thomas Berger  
Corporate Communications  
Phone +43-1-93000 44277  
[thomas.berger@oebb.at](mailto:thomas.berger@oebb.at)