

In response to COVID-19, the List Visual Arts Center's galleries remain closed until further notice. For more information and updates click [here](#).



Joana Hadjithomas & Khalil Joreige,
The Rumor of the World, 2014
Video installation, 23 screens, 100 loudspeakers, 38
HD films variable lengths
Photo courtesy Villa Arson, Nice, France

READING GROUP BETWEEN TRUST AND DECEIT

April 6, 2016, 6:00PM

[Map](#)

20 Ames Street, Bldg. E15
Cambridge, MA 02139

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How does an examination of deception reveal the changing face of intimacy and belief? What details transform fiction into an experience of fact? Join List Curatorial Fellow Monica Steinberg for a reading and discussion group exploring the poetics, pragmatics, and economics of trust in [Joana Hadjithomas & Khalil Joreige: I must first apologize...](#)

Advanced registration is required and spots are limited; click [here](#) to reserve your spot. Readings will be sent to participants one week prior to the event.

About the Exhibition

The culmination of a major project by Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige, this exhibition presents a body of work that looks at the history of online spam and scamming through film, sculpture, photography, and installation. Hadjithomas and Joreige have collected and archived a certain kind of spam e-mail—unsolicited messages from strangers—since 1999. These are schemes rooted in historical confidence tricks such as *The Spanish Prisoner*, which dates back to the sixteenth century. Aimed at swindling the recipient into transferring money to alleviate various invented personal hardships, collectively these e-mail scams delineate a map of recent geopolitical conflict, social unrest, and economic upheaval. Throughout this body of work, Hadjithomas and Joreige probe into the structures of belief and storytelling: they unfold a complex set of relationships marked by intimacy, trust, greed, and desire, all in relation to the internet and technology. The exhibition charts a kind of narrative itinerary ranging from various works that present intimate correspondence between scammers and victims to so-called "trophy" photographs extracted by vigilante scam-baiters and several video works that feature real or fictional protagonists of scams, including the major new installation *The Rumor of the World* (2014).

About the Artists

Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige (both b. 1969, Beirut, Lebanon) live and work in Beirut and Paris. They have collaborated as filmmakers and artists since 1997. Their feature film *Je Veux Voir (I Want to See)* won Best Film of 2008 by the French Critics Guild. Their photographs and installations have been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions at Centre Pompidou, Paris; Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Victoria & Albert Museum, London; SF MoMA, California; and New Museum, New York.

For more information, contact:

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MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames Street, Bldg. E15
Atrium level
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

[Directions + Map](#)

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