

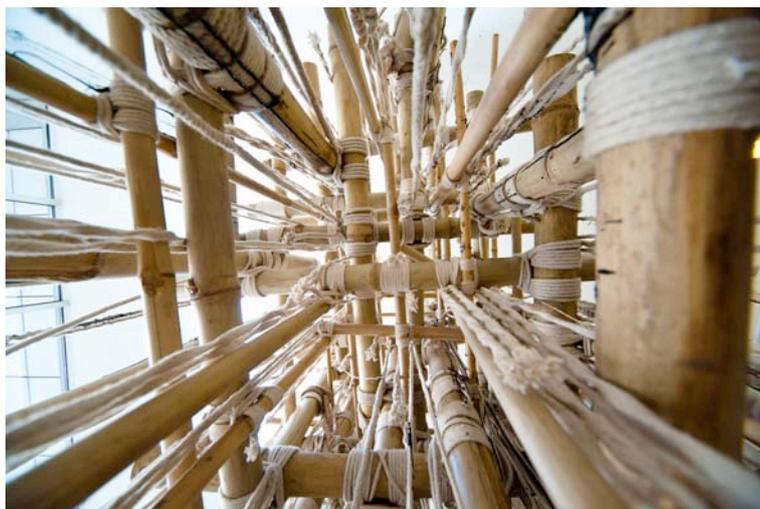
# Galerie Daniel Templon

Paris

Press Release  
October 8, 2013

## ASIM WAQIF

November 9 – December 21, 2013  
Opening: Saturday November 9, from noon to 8 pm



*Venu*, 2012, bamboo, rope, tar and interactive electronics, various dimensions

A year after the big impact young Indian artist Asim Waqif made at the Palais de Tokyo with his *Bordel Monstre* installation, he is exhibiting his work at a French gallery for the first time with a spectacular **interactive** site-specific installation

*Venu* is an enormous bamboo structure fitted with **sensors** that respond to touch, sound, light and vibration. Visitors are invited both to **experiment with the work** and to act as the agent that sets it in motion.

A trained architect, Asim Waqif finds his inspiration in our built environment. He is particularly interested in the search for new materials, **urban development** policies and the issue of **waste**. He uses a variety of media, from videos and installations to photography and sculpture.

The artist uses the *Venu* piece to highlight the concepts of **durability** and the **complementarity** between vernacular architectural traditions and new technologies. His goal is to create a structure that has meaning from both an ecological and a cultural point of view. He is, once again, commenting on contemporary consumerism. He believes that “**decay and destruction** have an important role to play in adapting to the dynamism of society.”

Halfway between **photography and sculpture**, *Exploration* pays homage to the *Mausolée* project, the unauthorised **artists' residence** organised in 2010 in an abandoned supermarket at Porte de la Villette in the north of Paris by French graffiti artists Lek and Sowat. It became the headquarters for underground culture for a year. A piece in coloured graffiti forms a streak in the romantic black and white view of the *Mausolée*'s now legendary 40,000 m<sup>2</sup> space, giving it a new dimension. It creates a space where freedom reigns, a residual entity where the filter of private and public memory can be applied.

Born in Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh) in 1978, Asim Waqif lives and works in New Delhi. After studying architecture, he launched a career as a cinema and television director before changing direction and dedicating himself to purely artistic work. He was recently the artist in residence at the SAM Art Project exhibited at the Palais de Tokyo, at the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (Noida, 2012), the Dr Bhau Daji Lad Museum (Mumbai, 2012) and the Nature Morte gallery in New Delhi (2013).

**Address :** Impasse Beaubourg 75003 Paris

**Hours :** Tuesday-Saturday ; 10 am -7 pm

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