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PRESENTS

Dr. Nizan Shaked, Cal State University, Long Beach

Dr. Shaked will discuss her recently published book, *The Synthetic Proposition: Conceptualism and the Political Referent in Contemporary Art*, which examines the impact of Civil Rights, Black Power, the student, feminist and sexual-liberty movements on conceptualism and its legacies in the United States between the late 1960s and the 1990s. This ground breaking book, focuses on the turn to political reference to the reciprocal influences of conceptualism and identity politics: movements that have so far been historicised as mutually exclusive. The book demonstrates that while identity-based strategies were particular, their impact spread far beyond the individuals or communities that originated them. Dr. Shaked will relate key concepts in *The Synthetic Proposition* to the controversies surrounding the 1995 Whitney Biennial.

Dr. Shaked has written for Verlag für Moderne Kunst, and Phaidon as well as reviews and articles including Art and Education, American Quarterly, Journal of Curatorial Studies, Counterpunch and X-TRA Contemporary Art Quarterly, where she has been a member of the editorial board since 2008. Shaked's curatorial projects include Fetish: Art/Word at the UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History (2002), Symmetry (with Kimberli Meyer 2006) at the MAK Center for Art and Architecture (2006), and How Many Billboards? Art Instead (with Kimberli Meyer, Lisa Henry and Gloria Sutton in 2010).



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