

The Dai Ho Chun Endowment for Distinguished Lecturers  
in the Colleges of Arts & Sciences  
Presents

# Defne Ayas

## Art in the Age of Crisis

a free public lecture

Friday, March 10, 2017, 4 p.m.  
Art Building Auditorium, UH Mānoa Campus

Defne Ayas will relate art to the question of crisis, be it aesthetic, geographic, communal, and even spiritual. She will also be looking at how artists can be active (co-) creators of possible future vectors of realities, politics, institutions and their representation.

Ayas is a curator and publisher in the field of contemporary visual art and its institutions. She is currently the Director of Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art in Rotterdam, where she oversees an exhibition program devoted to artists, writers, and curators from across the globe. Since 2012, she has commissioned and (co-) curated numerous long-term projects and exhibitions including the recent *...* by Bik van der Pol, *...* by Douglas Coupland, and the three-part *...* series. Ayas has worked on a number of biennial projects as: curator of the Pavilion of Turkey in the 56<sup>th</sup> International Art Exhibition, Venice Biennale; co-curator of the 6<sup>th</sup> Moscow Biennale; co-curator of the 11<sup>th</sup> Baltic Triennale; city curator for the 9<sup>th</sup> Shanghai Biennale; and curator-at-large at PERFORMA in New York and Spring in Hong Kong. In 2013, Ayas launched WDWReview.org as Witte de With's esteemed online arts & culture journal, together with Adam Kleinman as its chief editor.

Ayas will also be holding a seminar for students on March 9, Art Building 101. Email Jaimey Hamilton Faris for more information: [hamilton.faris@hawaii.edu](mailto:hamilton.faris@hawaii.edu)