

CONTEMPORARY ISTANBUL
18TH Edition
26 September – 1 October 2023

Vasilis Papageorgiou
Yorgos Stamkopoulos
Valinia Svoronou

The core of the presentation will be three greek artists, alphabetically Vasilis Papageorgiou, Yorgos Stamkopoulos and Valinia Svoronou. The resemblance of landscapes which can be found within the paintings and the sculptures presented is of great importance. Those landscapes can be seen as sites of memory which embody experiences and emotions from the past. When gazing at the works an experience of place and movement in an emotional landscape of the past is being created.

Vasilis Papageorgiou's series of ceramic works is based on how he is looking through the window, on how he can visualize this brief moment between distraction and leisure time, where there is no obligation to think or to act. The title of the series of works indicates the time of the sunset of the day that the artwork was finished. Central to this work is the attempt to forget about time and find these few seconds of idleness.

Examining the work of Yorgos Stamkopoulos, it becomes clear that the subject matter of his paintings has to do with the process and the becoming. The artworks depart from utilizing vivid coloration, have a more restricted palette, diversified between red and blue and they could be efficiently characterized as a way of reinventing landscape. They evoke the natural environment in a way. His abstract pictures glow with the same shimmering light that can be found in the seaside. The swerves and switchbacks of his stacked bands can be quickly observed as parallel lines of waves approaching a beach, swelling and breaking as they near the shore or as the wind that passes by a plateau.

Valinia Svoronou's works remind the spectator of floating remaining objects which can be found in the sea and on the coast. Memories of moments in certain landscapes referring to stories and emotions. An attempt to deepen the relationship between memory and history, nature and loss, migration and immigration, purring out of the frame of a historical moment. As movement is unthinkable without time and time is constantly passing, memory is a continuous happening as well.

Minda Andrén
Selma Köran
Giorgos Tserionis

Further presentations that are going to be on view at the booth during the fair.

Within her artistic practice Minda Andrén depicts memories of images that linger in endless loops through her mind rather than painting an accurate representation of what is understood as reality. The source of these very subjective impressions of reality can be the immediate surroundings encountered by Andrén, books, medieval manuscripts or what the mind feeds off from by scrolling through the endless stream of digital images. Andrén's artistic practice negotiates the position of painting within the flood of (digital) images, using hybrid elements by which she enables us to navigate through academic aesthetics, historic art and the digital world. An exploration of the aftereffects of a bodily sensation from a constant flow and overload of images.

Selma Köran's works explore the mythological realm of narration and examine the state of humanity according to it. Her work understands itself as a repair work in the past. Putting herself in the shoes of a dilettante archeologist, she dissects the body of western narrative in order to pastiche and mock the traditional anticipation of archetypological roles within our society. By deconstructing and re-staging these narratives our perspective on the normative and hierarchical is called into question.

Through a broad range of media such as painting, sculpture, ceramics and large-scaled installations, Giorgos Tserionis creates the image of a society in decay. The distortions in his anthropomorphic drawings and sculptures denounce the strain of living surrounded by the ongoing violence experienced in contemporary life and promoted through media. History is referenced as a shelter against the insecurities and angst that humans of today are being subjected to. People and other beings are presented as elements under reform; everything has the ability to transform through the process of adaptation and evolution. His painted works amuse the idea of technology's interference in life. Being perceived as digital prints, his works reverse the mechanism. As a result, artmaking, especially in the traditional way of painting, now intrudes in technology.