



ΔΕΛΤΙΟ ΤΥΠΟΥ

Video Art Festival Miden | 5- 7 July 2012
Historic Centre of Kalamata

And back to zero

Amid hard and overall decadence and despite economic difficulties, Festival Miden vividly returns at the Historic Centre of Kalamata to present its new program of contemporary videoart. Restless voices from all over the world will be there via their creations to share with us drastic images full of dreams, aspirations, concerns and fears, opening a window from where we could possibly draw strength and optimism.

2012 edition of Festival Miden will take place at Kalamata's Historic Centre (Amfeias square) on 5-6-7 of July, with free entrance for the public as always.

During its 3day events the festival will present 216 videoworks from 45 countries, selected out of more than 1500 video-entries.

The festival's thematic programs include "[Un]natural disaster", "There's a room in the elephant", "99%", "YOU & I", "StayStill", "Dream a little dream", "How to Art", "2084", "Locall calling!" and "Now you see me... now you don't", curated by the festival's team. Along with it's own selections, the festival presents special tributes to significant festivals, platforms & groups from Greece & abroad. This year, the festival will present videoart selections from: Art:screen (Sweden), Nova (Nordic Countries), Atopia (Norway), CologneOFF/ Cologne International Videoart Festival (Germany) and Madatac (Spain).

Furthermore, two very interesting parallel events are scheduled: the presentation of "Animacall", an international project by Contemporary Art Centre of Thessaloniki (State Museum of Contemporary Art), at the Archaeological Museum of Messenia, while later in July one more program dedicated to animation, entitled "Anim[n]ation", will be screened in the context of the 6th Kalamata Street Festival which is organized by the Youth Center of Kalamata at the Railway Park.

Festival Miden*, the first Greek videoart festival presented in open public spaces, is an annual video art & new media cultural event based in Kalamata, GR. It is an independent organization founded, organized and curated by a team of contemporary Greek artists.

Since 2005, Festival Miden has been gradually established as one of the most successful and interesting video art festivals in Greece and abroad and has been a significant point of

cultural exchange for Greek and international video art, creating an alternative, peripheral meeting point for emerging and established video artists.

(*Miden means “zero” in Greek)

A more detailed look at the 2012 program

SCREENING A

[Un]natural disaster | 5/7

Human mania, personal tragedies, everyday “paranoia”, natural disasters in an ...unnatural way and with a sterile and bleak future as a background.

There's a room in the elephant | 5/7

There's something happening here but you don't know what it is or more precisely you pretend you don't know. It's something so obvious, so omnipresent and inescapable, but you insist to ignore it. Yet, there is plenty of room...

99% | 5/7

From the global movement “Occupy” that spontaneously adopted the percentage 99% as a starting point, minimum political platform, frame and analysis, advancing it at the same time into a central political slogan and call to subversion, we pass through its creative diffusion into partial issues, personal and simultaneously collective, local and simultaneously global, to the transcending and often arbitrary paths of videoart.

YOU & i | 6/7

A program that highlights you (in capital letters) and shrinks the “i” (in lowercase form)? Interpersonal relations, subversions, conflicts that move from loneliness to humor and from cruelty to playfulness. Is it a matter of winning?

StayStill | 6/7

Personal worlds that perpetually intercross creating intimate and social relations and back to personal worlds again. Threads being unraveled while maintained in a strange stillness defying their even more strange environment.

Dream a little dream | 6/7

The first of two animation programs of Festival Miden 2012. Contemporary animation in the era of internet becomes even more popular among creators and audience alike. Original techniques and polymorphous approaches in works that have a strong intention of outlining a personal universe.

How to Art | 7/7

The world of global art keeps expanding in the digital times, and thus its volume has increased beyond imagination. There are voices already speaking of a digital cacophony. At the same time, relevant questions have been multiplied too: Is this art, how do you create art, how do you confront a work of art or an artistic gesture, what is the role of a curator and how does the notorious “art market” works? Everything you need (or never wanted) to know for the magnificent world of contemporary art!

2084 | 7/7

With a clear reference to George Orwell’s novel “1984”, this program is Festival Miden’s call to an approach of the future and its dystopian possibility. A futurism that is not confined in an unworldly architecture and the ruins of the past but extends to the expressions of the face. A brief history of the future, right here and now.

SCREENING B

Cologne OFF: 60x60 - 1#minuteCologne | 5/7

CologneOFF and 1#minuteCOLOGNE (Cologne One Minute Film Festival) present 60x60, a special selection of 1minute videos, curated by Wilfried Agricola de Cologne, with whom Festival Miden cooperates for the 4th time.

Madatac: VIDEOsPAIN (VIDEOeSPAÑA) | 5/7

Madatac Festival (Madrid, Spain) presents a caustic, peculiar, critical and enticing tribute to “flesh-video” audio-visual projects produced by Spanish artists or in Spanish territory, where verity and oneiric visions collide and are expanded towards heterogeneous ways of watching unveiled emotions. Curated by Iury Lech, director of Madatac.

Actus – a short film | 5/7

A couple trapped in a discussion about a birthday cake and nail polishers. Actus explores the blurred lines between reality and simulation. Departing from the idea of representation, time and space is manipulated in order to provoke a fissure in the otherwise stable relationship between spectator and spectacle.

Kika Nicolela is a Brazilian artist and filmmaker. Her works include single-channel videos, installations, performances, experimental documentaries and photography. Since 2008, Kika Nicolela also curates and coordinates the Exquisite Corpse Video Project, an ongoing collaborative series of videos that involves more than 70 artists from 25 countries.

ATOPIA: Film & Video Art in Norway, 1960-90 (The Highlights) | 6/7

ATOPIA will present a 68min screening program dedicated to the history of video-art in Norway, curated by Farhad Kalantary.

The program brings together a number of key historical works produced between 1960 and 90 in Norway. These works were part of ATOPIA’s larger survey project “Retrospective: Film & Video Art Norway”, a long-term research involving exhibitions, screenings, seminars and publications.

ATOPIA is an Oslo based artist initiative - an art/research centre and a gallery- dedicated to the development of experimental film & video art in Norway, founded in 2003.

The presentation of ATOPIA in Festival Miden 2012 is kindly supported by the [Norwegian Embassy](#) and the [Norwegian Institute at Athens](#).

Art:screen: In This World | 6/7

Art:screen is an event and platform that showcases new, innovative and contemporary moving image from Swedish and international artists in single-channel screening programs consisting of a number of short works.

Art:screen is founded by Jonas Nilsson & Eva Olsson, who curated for Festival Miden a selection of works by Swedish artists, on the theme “In This World”. The program visualizes the changing forms of limitless imaginaries - often combining elements of video art and documentary film, which are exploring new ways of seeing reality and nature from a cultural, social and individual aspect. Structures of power, humor and bizarre stories are sometimes used to emphasize new insights.

NOVA: The Right Way to Be | 6/7

“The Right Way to Be” is a screening of works by artists participating in Northern Video Art Network NOVA. Curated by Kristin Scheving and Juha van Ingen, who write about their selection: “The selection of work are all of performative nature and deal with different issues but what they all have in common is reflection on humanity, interaction with other people via urban space, in the nature or via internet!”

NOVA is a FixC cooperative project made in collaboration with 700IS and Formverk (art zone). It is a new web-based platform for artists working with video- media art and experimental cinema to show and promote their works and to post current info of their screenings and exhibitions. NOVA is a non-profit project which is built utilizing open source applications. The network focuses on the promotion of video artists from the Nordic countries. Initially opened with artists from Finland, Iceland and Sweden and more recently from Norway and Denmark.

Local calling! | 7/7

Works by artists and creators who come from, have lived or have any kind of love-hate relationship with the city Kalamata (GR). An ongoing project of Festival Miden, that aims to create a communication network between artists that are connected or related to Kalamata (the birth city of the festival) in any way.

Now you see me... now you don't | 7/7

Snapshots, memories, spaces, movements and images that float between poetry and literacy, between absence and presence. Through darkness and threat we move spirally to color and light and back again.

The Game of Poverty | 7/7

This video documentary is based on a radio documentary directed by Emmanouil Koutsourelis and written by Ilias Marmaras and Dimitris Daldakis (Greece 2011). The radio version was nominated for the Prix Europa 2011 in Berlin.

Dimitris Daldakis explains the concept of the documentary:

“Amidst this frame context of finance fashion, we have forgotten the meaning of primary needs. And so we, all, poor players, found ourselves betting on who is to crumble down and who is to remain standing.

In this background of generalized concern for the future of modern man, of the generalized concern for the future of modern Europe, Ilias Marmaras and Dimitris Daldakis present the video documentary ‘The Game of Poverty’.”

COLLATERAL EVENTS

Animacall, the animation project 2011 | 5-7/7

Main program. Projection of 80 animation videos in alphabetical order (duration 4 hours appr.).

Animacall, the animation project 2011 is a production of Contemporary Art Center of Thessaloniki of the State Museum of Contemporary Art and it was first presented in 2011.

The main program came out of a worldwide open call to Greek and foreign animators in the framework of the tribute to the art of animation run by Contemporary Art Center of Thessaloniki of the State Museum of Contemporary Art (March 30 – June 5, 2011).

Curators: Syrago Tsiara, CACT director / Domna Gounari, CACT curator.

Days and hours of Animacall screenings at the Archaeological Museum of Messenia:

Tuesday 5 (14.00-18.00 h), Friday 6 and Saturday 7 of July 2012 (12.00-16.00 h)

The Archaeological Museum is housed in the building of the Old Municipal Market at Benakis & Agiou Ioannou, at the Historic Centre of Kalamata.

The event is co-organized by the Archaeological Museum of Messenia.

Anim[n]ation | 27-29/7

6th Kalamata Street Festival, 27-29 July 2012, Railway Park Kalamata.

Animation in multiple versions & techniques is a common global language. Animators from 20 countries meet in an extra program of Festival Miden, which will be screened for the first time in the frame of an alternative youthful event that has been established in Kalamata.

Street Festival began in October 2009 as an idea that came to life in open public spaces of Kalamata, hosting a series of events, and this year becomes international. It is an initiative of Kalamata's Youth Center, realized with the support of multiple local organizations.

Creative team Festival Miden 2012:

Curators: Gioula Papadopoulou – Giorgos Dimitrakopoulos

Curator of “[Un]natural disaster”: Stavros Kapetis

Curator of “YOU & i”: Maria Bourika

Tributes & collaborations: Gioula Papadopoulou

DVD authoring-editing: Stavros Kapetis

Graphics: T.N.

Website: Christos Tsamardas

Assistance: Margarita Stavradi, Sibel Amet, Stavroula Baka, Nikos Syrigos, Filaretos Vourkos

Poster image credit: Patrick Gofre «No name no title», Netherlands 2011.

Information: www.festivalmiden.gr | info@festivalmiden.gr

Collaborating groups, festivals, institutions:



SUPPORTERS:



μυλόπετρα



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