

PRESS RELEASE

Kunsthalle Athena
June 13-14, 2011
starting time: 7 p.m.

Farewell

Curated by: **Themis Bazaka, Marina Fokidis**

Participating Actors:

Angela Brouskou, Stefania Goulioti, Maria Panourgia, Angeliki Papoulia, Yannis Stankoglou, George Symeonidis, Ioanna Tsami, Theodora Tzimou, Yorgos Valais, Konstantina Voulgari

Participating visual artists:

Christina Dimitriadis, Lo-Fi, Pantelis Makkas, Alexandros Mistriotis, Pantelis Pantelopoulos, Dimitris Papadatos, Theo Prodromidis, Socratis Socratous, Dimitris Tataris, Kostis Velonis

Advisory board: **Orestis Andreadakis, Angela Dimitrakaki, Elena Karakouli, Nikos Papastergiadis, Yorgos Tzirtzilakis**

Farewell is the convergence of two art forms for the creation of a separate performance that attempts to approach the concept of farewell. Ten actors will work together with ten visual artists on this particular thematic context in order to produce a number of "live works".

This exhibition- performance- experiment will take place in the distinctive space of Kunsthalle Athena, the new art space that has been running in a half-abandoned neoclassical building in Kerameikos.

The various live acts of *Farewell* will take place scattered in the entire space. Some of the performances will last five hours in a row and others are shorter and periodically repeated. The visitors will be free to choose their own path inside the space, attending whatever they wish for as long as they like. "Visitors enter Kunsthalle Athena as they would enter an exhibition space, with the only difference that here there are live exhibits and ongoing performances. Each visitor is able to move on or stop in front of the works, according to his/her interests. Some performances are more interactive, others demand personal contact with the viewer and in some

others, the viewer cannot see except from a distance. All this has been developed in the rehearsals and it might develop even further during the performance. It's a live work in progress", says the actor Themis Bazaka who thought of the concept of *Farewell*, together with the curator and writer Marina Fokidis.

Even though interdisciplinary collaboration is an established tendency, in this case, we are attempting to add some fresh perspective to it. The artists (actors and visual artists) are found all together for the first time in the exhibition-performance space of Kunsthalle Athena to face the challenge of cooperating on the interpretation of a sentimentally charged issue. The groups or couples that will emerge are not predetermined but formed by the artists themselves under the facilitation of the curatorial team.

In this case, the concept of farewell is considered in a broadened realm, not only in its sentimental but also in its sociopolitical dimension. The artists are called to respond to some of the binaries that relate to the concept of farewell such as joy/sorrow, freedom/separation, redemption/fear, longing/nostalgia, hope/disappointment, habit/change, old/new world, life/death. All this seems to be inextricable from the watershed that we are currently going through, the gradual loss of the familiar and the emergence of new facts, a mixing-up of things as we have known them so far.

Free admission.

Co-organised by

KVNSTHALLE ATHENA

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