

KVNSTHALLE ATHENA

PRESS RELEASE

SOTIRIS BAKAGIANNIS (THEPERSONWHODIDTHIS) SELECTED FOR KUNSTHALLE ATHENA - ONLINE COMMISSION 2013

Every year Kunsthalle Athena is commissioning one artist to do a piece specifically for the opening page of its website. You can view it by clicking www.kunsthalleathena.org.

For 2013, Kunsthalle Athena selected artist Sotiris Bakagiannis (Thepersonwhodidthis.com). Bakagiannis documents his life by building web-based monolithic compositions that employ real time data streams in a passively animated manner. The first in a series of domain works that explore event-driven, non-blocking JavaScript (thisislongform.com) opened in February 2011. It consists mainly of printing out random tweets on the Arab spring as they happen and in an ever-growing type, until any sense of content disappears and silent rhythms and tensions start to emerge.

Bakagiannis grew up next to a computer and has been consciously experimenting with code and digital media since the mid '90s. He studied music production at the Gateway School of Recording (London) and further trained as a researcher at Keele University with Mark Tarrant and John Sloboda, learning statistics and reading on emotion, creativity and social identity theory. After seeing his thesis presented and published, he went on to pursue his long-term fascination with art and programming, working closely with live cinema group **The Erasers**.

Bakagiannis bought his first domain in 2001 and has come to manage nearly seventy. Bakagiannis's latest piece xn--kxaeb2awwu.com (B1tp1va.com) serves up-to-the-minute screen grabs from his desktop, projected both online and through his retro-looking storefront in downtown Athens. He is currently working on dirtfoulandbooty.com, a generative audiovisual installation demonstrating monstrous code that drains machine and Internet resources. It will be on show at *ARRRGH! Monsters in Fashion* at La Gaîté Lyrique in Paris from February 13th to April 7th.

For more information or visual material, please contact:

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