

KVNSTHALLE ATHENA

PRESS RELEASE

Athens, the 25th of July

Kunsthalle Athena has completed successfully a series of cultural events in the heart of Athens. Under this scope, Kunsthalle Athena wished to show that, we - in Athens – will not stop producing art due to the latest economic and social crisis.

The chronological reference of each of these events gives an equal artistic output to the general resistance against this difficult period we are going through, as well as provokes a chain of thoughtful reactions.

Officially, it all began with a com-memorable night on Tuesday, July the 3rd, 2012, with the opening of the exhibition *A Wonderful Life*, with participating artists: Andreas Angelidakis, Christina Dimitriadis, Yiorgos Lazongas, Dimitris Masselos, Kostis Paravadiis, Dimitris Rokos, Socratis Socratous, Maria Tzanakou, Vangelis Vlahos, under the thematic of the current crisis, particularly as it has been depicted in Capra's film about the crisis in America during the 30's, *It's a Wonderful Life*.

Therefore, the exhibition began with a big party that was held also to celebrate SOUTH magazine's very first issue (SOUTH is a semi-annual arts and culture magazine that circulates in Greece and abroad under the care of Kunsthalle Athena team and its friends, supporters from all around the world).

The internationally acclaimed artist and friend of Kunsthalle Athena, Cibelle, came from London in order to perform live in front of a big crowd of visitors, who attended the event that took place in the terrace of the neoclassical building of Kunsthalle Athena under a beautiful night lighted by a full moon. Cibelle dedicated her performance to all the hard-working women of the neighbourhood. A unique dj set by Amateurboyz followed, and with a lot of fun, dancing and big fat smiles, partially because of the multiple drinking SOL beers and/or impromptu cocktails with raki, the night ended successfully.

Then, as part of the exhibition, the *Epitaph*, a touching lecture-performance-concert referring to democracy under the direction of Angela Brouskou, was presented for only 2 days, the 9th and 10th of July. The deep philosophical ideas from *Pericles' Funeral Oration* were conferred; this time intermingled with the sharp words from the texts of Cornelius Castoriadis in order to amaze the 200 visitors who attended each of those hot nights in our terrace. With a group of young actors, the music band of MiniMaximum Improvisation, the "Theatro Domatiou" and the academic reading by Gina Politi, Angela Brouskou managed to shake us with her own version of how the modern world is built according to the texts of Thucydides.

All in all, 2.000 people so far have visited the exhibition, as well as its parallel events. Along with the fast pace that SOUTH is going sold out of the bookstore shelves all around the world, Kunsthalle Athena is empowered and motivated to continue its niche, so that it will keep this kind of relationship it has developed with its supporters, from both the arty and non-arty community untouched.

And thus, it will keep it up no matter the hardships, right after a short summer break (a break from the city and not from work, as you will soon find out yourselves), with the exhibition *A Wonderful Life*, which will remain open until Thursday the 26th of July, and the next issue of SOUTH, a part of which will be produced during this August at Anafi island, and that will be out this November. We would like initially to thank all the participating artists, who gave us the means to resist against life's hardships, and our sponsors Aegean Airlines, New Hotel, SOL beer and KM who helped us to implement all the latest events, but most of all, our loyal supporters, for whom we keep on doing what we have started doing.

See you all in September!

For further details about SOUTH magazine, you can see our facebook page www.facebook.com/SOUTHmagazine.gr. You can also see a presentation of SOUTH at Pablo León de la Barra's blog, Centre for the Aesthetic Revolution: <http://centrefortheaestheticrevolution.blogspot.gr/search/label/South%20Magazine>.

For more visual material, please visit:

www.flickr.com/photos/kunsthalleathena

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