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NEW ART: Pledges by Kalliopi Lemos at The Byzantine & Christian Museum, Athens



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16th March – 30th September 2014 Byzantine & Christian Museum:

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www.byzantinemuseum.gr (<http://www.byzantinemuseum.gr/en/>)

Privacy

The installation focuses on the journey as transition from despair to hope, from death to life, expressing the constant human quest. Votive offerings, a timeless symbol of the human drama and hope, materialize the agonizing request for divine mediation. The work focuses on the courage of the human soul and the power of life itself.

The Byzantine Museum, this year celebrating its 100th anniversary, is presenting a work that offers an opportunity for critical thought and reflection in the present age.

Kalliopi Lemos's recent exhibitions include "I Am I, Between Worlds and Between Shadows", a critically acclaimed solo show curated by Beral Madra, which opened during the 2013 Istanbul Biennial. The exhibition at the Ioakimion Greek High School for Girls in Istanbul, had extensive press coverage including Art Review, International Herald Tribune, CNN and Time Out, and was one of the most well attended exhibitions during the Istanbul Biennial. The exhibition was extended until 23 June 2014.

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?Lemos's projects, since 2006 were intended to raise awareness on the ongoing illegal immigration from Turkey to Greece and to EU countries. In view of that, Kalliopi Lemos found in Istanbul a logical ground for her ongoing project, which started with the exhibition of abandoned boats in Elefsina (2006-2009). In 2007, Round Voyage, the second installation with boats was presented in Istanbul and is now on permanent display at Istanbul Bilgi University on the Golden Horn. In 2009 the third majestic installation with four boats was presented to international audiences in Berlin in front of Brandenburg Gate, and stirred a strong public opinion. The last installation, a boat covered with more than 1000 votives made of drink cans, and engraved with the names of illegal immigrants who reached the shores of Greece, was created for the 3rd Çanakkale Biennale and donated to the Çanakkale people.

About the artist

Kalliopi Lemos is a sculptor, painter and installation artist. She studied painting and printing at the Byam Shaw School of Art, University of the Arts London, Central Saint Martins, where she also pursued post-graduate studies. Lemos studied the art of Ikebana for 15 years. She lives and works in London.

Her work over the past decade has explored the narrative of existential journeys, displacement and the politics of forced migration. Lemos is currently exhibiting in the Byzantine & Christian Museum in Athens, while in 2012 she realized a solo exhibition at aantonopoulou.art gallery in Athens, and participated in the 3rd International Biennial of Canakkale, Turkey with her installation Pledges for a Safe Passage. Her exhibitions in 2011 included Navigating in the Dark, a three-part exhibition in Athens, Crete and London incorporating works made by Lemos over the past ten years. In 2011, Lemos also collaborated with acclaimed director Theodoros Terzopoulos, in Greece and London, and she participated in the group exhibition Polyglossia at the Onassis Cultural Centre Athens (www.sgt.gr).

From 2006 to 2009 she presented a series of public art installations on the theme of illegal migration comprising; Crossing, Eleusis, Greece, 2006/9 (www.aisxylia.gr); Round Voyage, (santralistanbul, www.santralistanbul.org), Istanbul, 2007 (until present); and At Crossroads, Brandenburg Gate, Berlin 2009 (Akademie der Künste, www.adk.de), a monumental art work that also marked the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. Her works are on permanent display in public spaces in New York, Istanbul and Canakkale.

www.kalliopilemos.com (<http://www.kalliopilemos.com/>)



About Mark Westall

Mark Westall is the Founder and Editor of FAD magazine Founder and co-publisher Art of Conversation and founder of the platform @worldoffad

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