



FERM TAGGE SYKKA VINEA

Summer Programme 2021

The Hermitage Sykaminea is situated in an olive grove on the slope of Mount Lepetymnos, the highest mountain on the island of Lesbos. It was founded in 2016 as a place for retreat. In 2020, the first summer programme took place. The small wooden house became a community space and the participants camped in the hermitage's olive grove. From spring 2022 the hermitage will accommodate twelve people in its new buildings. Six sleeping rooms, three bathrooms, two kitchens and a multifunctional space create a setting that fits for groups to run seminars or workshops.

The Hermitage Sykaminea is a residence where visual artists, craftsmen, gardeners, architects and designers work together. The residency is designed to encourage groups to work together on projects and to initiate collaborations that will continue beyond the residency period. In this way the Hermitage Sykaminea wants to stimulate and promote self-organized networks.

In addition, the Hermitage Sykaminea aims to strengthen the cultural life on the island of Lesbos and contributes to a different perception of the island. For the years past, international

media has been focusing on Lesbos as a refugee crisis epicentre. The EU and the Greek government have not managed the refugee influx in a sufficient manner, having concentrated large numbers of people on Lesbos, thus allowing far-right movements to gain momentum. The cultural actors are making an effort to counteract those movements by organising initiatives and offering cultural activities. The aim is to improve the situation on the island by supporting cultural life in an area of crises.

The period of collective isolation (resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic), a time when people wished to physically meet friends again has been challenging, but it has also been a trigger to reflect on one's own way of life. The 2020/21 summer programmes at the Hermitage Sykaminea have therefore been dedicated to the current theme of isolation and reflection on forms of community life alongside work and the traditional nuclear family. The Hermitage Sykaminea particularly invited people to whom this topic is relevant - to collect ideas of other forms of social exchange and, in the best case, to lay the foundation for the implementation of an idea.



Discussion session 1: Planned activities while Summer Programme

This year, the summer programme ran for three months from 1 July to 5 October. Compared to last year, twice as many events took place and a third more participants came. Thus the Hermitage became more visible in the region. The programme consisted of workshops, discussion sessions, excursions, film screenings and individual projects that were prepared in collaboration with the organizers and participants. We created a summer of celebrating community. The 17 participants came from eight different countries and spent an average of two weeks at the Hermitage. In addition to the newly invited participants, there were also participants from last year. The theme of the summer programme was the same as the previous year, 'Isolation and Forms of Community', and took into consideration the current development of increasing digitalisation and the resulting isolation. With the summer programme, Hermitage Sykaminea intends to take the first steps to bring creative people to the North Lesvos region. Part of the summer programme were public workshops in wool processing, where the basic skills of felting were taught. The creative partner of the Hermitage is the K-Gold Temporary Gallery. Under the direction of the art space, the 'Lesvos Film Project', involving a total of four artistic initiatives on the island, took place for the first time.

WORKSHOPS
DISCUSSION SESSIONS
FILM SCREENINGS
EXCURSIONS
INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE

WORKSHOPS

Traditional processing methods
in a contemporary environment

Felt making

Julie Loi

Saturdays and Sundays

7/8th, 14/15th, 21st/22nd August

Containers

Reading and Pottery

Sepake Angiama

Sunday 8th August

I don't speak too good

Writing Workshop

Eleni Papazoglou

Tuesday 17th August

On mortality

Reading Event

EJ Williams

Saturday 21st August

TRADITIONAL PROCESSING METHODS IN A CONTEMPORARY ENVIRONMENT

Felt making Workshop

Julie Loi

Saturdays and Sundays

7/8th, 14/15th, 21st/22nd August

On Lesbos there is a long tradition in sheep breeding. Sheep are used for milk and meat production, but their wool is not used as the quality is not high enough for fabric production, so it is thrown away and the amount of waste is huge.

Julie Loi intends not only to process sheep's wool as a product again, but also to show the region an economic model, which would find initiators and bring a new branch of industry to the island. For this reason, she held a workshop while her stay at the hermitage. In this way she plans to bring traditional processing methods into a contemporary environment and revive them. She believes that sustainability and ecology are the basis for high quality products.



CONTAINERS

Reading and Pottery Workshop

Sepake Angiama

Sunday 8th August

The base of Sepake Angiama's workshop was Ursula Le Guin book ,The Carrier Bag Theory of Fiction.' Hacking the linear, progressive mode of the Techno-Heroic, the Carrier Bag Theory of human evolution proposes: 'before the tool that forces energy outward, we made the tool that brings energy home.' Prior to the preeminence of sticks, swords and the Hero's killing tools, our ancestors' greatest invention was the container: the basket of wild oats, the medicine bundle, the net made of your own hair, the home, the shrine, the place that contains whatever is sacred. The recipient, the holder, the story. The bag of stars. Sepake Angiama started her workshop by asking all participants to bring a container - to define, what they believe a container is and present it to the group. After all participants read extracts from Ursula Le Guin's book and model in parallel one clay container together.



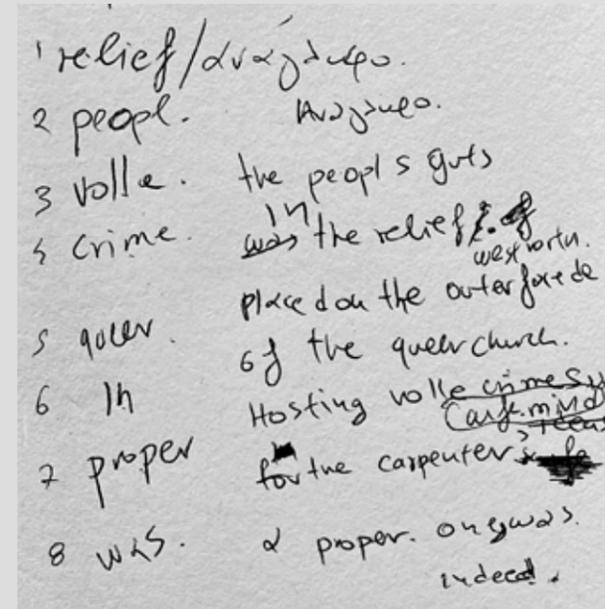
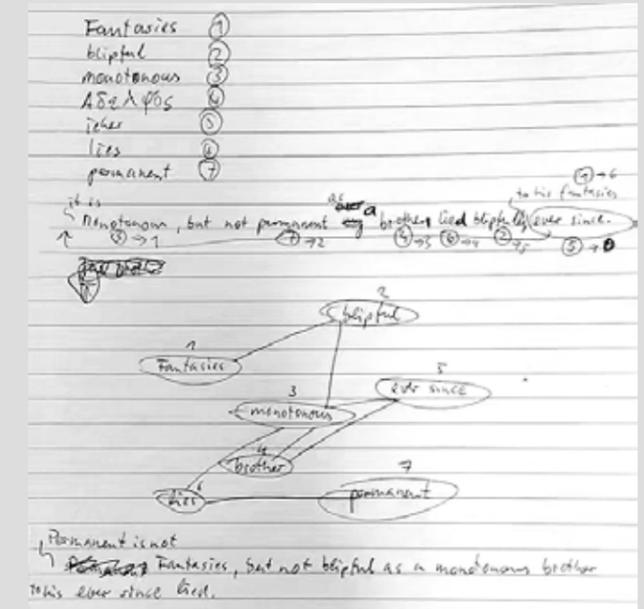
I DON'T SPEAK TOO GOOD

Writing Workshop

Eleni Papazoglou

Tuesday 17th August

A short writing workshop that introduces so called mistakes in language as a way of allowing the expression of diverse perspectives through the written medium. With starting points such as Russell Hoban's Riddley Walker, Benjamins Zephania's Dis Poetry, and Kathy Acker's Language of the Body, we spoke about englishes (different kinds of English), plurality and subversion. Working through CA Conrad's soma(tic) exercises we worked by combining found material and expressing others' experiences as one's own through short writing.



ON MORTALITY

Reading Event

EJ Williams

Saturday 21st August

Bringing together questions on mortality, grievable lives, ritual and memory, and the climate crisis, the following was used by a group:
Location: sarcophagus (dating 550-470 BC), 39.374225, 26.305859. Time of day: sunset.
Taste-ables: plant drops (made from Lesbos honey, sugar, wild sea fennel, wild thyme, wild oregano, wild citrus). Practices: readings amongst boulders, clay-body sculpting, procession, lighting of candles, tasting, silent walking around sarcophagus, placing of stones in recognition, respect and remembrance, walk to beach, night swim. Readings from: 'Precarious Life' by Judith Butler, 'On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous' by Ocean Vuong, 'Mourning Diary' by Roland Barthes, 'Requiem for a Species' by Clive Hamilton. Dedicated to: our friend Denise the wash-room mouse, my mum, all the displaced peoples who have crossed this island, and to all our ancestors in all forms.



FILM SCREENINGS

Next Stop Utopia, 2015, film, 91"

Wednesday 11th August

8:30pm

When a Greek factory goes bankrupt, the workers occupy it and attempt to run it on their own. Self-management proves no easy task; soon they discover that they first need to change themselves.

El botón de nácar, 2015, film, 82"

Saturday 21st August

9:00pm

Delving into the nearly-religious significance of water, this profound rumination on memory and loss bridges the gap between its mystical origins, Pinochet's coup d'état, and the secret of a mother-of-pearl button at the bottom of the sea.

EXCURSIONS

Artists that are planning to open a residency

Eirine Tianakou and Walter Götsch (Plomari)

Monday 16th - Wednesday 18th August

Forest and garden project

Victor Karafyllis (Vafios)

Thursday 19th August

Closed weaving mill

Myrto Vounatsou and Julie Loi (Skoutaros)

Friday 20th August

Self-sustainability

Farm Stratos and Mariet Fortiou (Kagia)

Tuesday 24th August



FILM PROJECT LESVOS 2021

K-Gold Temporary Gallery (22.07)
Hermitage Sykaminea (11.08)
Tryfon Art Residency (19.08)
Sigri Arts Retreat (22.08)

Film Project Lesvos: Directed by K-Gold Temporary Gallery

INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE

Furniture Design
(chairs and tables from used wood slats)
Victor Karafyllis
Friday 16th - Friday 23rd July

Sculpture
(series of objects from plastic, tape, clay, wool,
cable tie, construction foam)
Eleni Papazoglou
Monday 9th - Monday 23rd August

Ceramic Lamp Design
Theodoros Tzannetakis
Tuesday 10th - Monday 30th August

Stairway Construction
(Gabion-Technique)
Wolfram Sinapius
Wednesday 11th - Monday 29th August

Documentary Film Making
(film shooting for the documentary 'Slope'. The film will
show the emergence and transformation of the
Hermitage Sykaminea)
Fani Bitou
Friday 20th - Friday 27th August

Photography
(series of photographs on the ultimate portrait one
would like to have of her/himself)
Marco Pinarelli
Saturday 21st - Tuesday 25th August

Sculpture, Performance, Videoart
(using various stories and materials
to create a video)
Eirini Tiniakou and Walter Götsch
29th August - 6th September

Drawing, Sculpture, Photography
(transforming a situation into sculpture and
from there into a photograph)
Tomas Eyzaguirre
Sunday 19th - Thursday 30th September

Sculpture
Andrew Whittle
(using a drop spindle to create thread)
Saturday 18th - Thursday 30th August

Landscape Painting
Christl Mudrak
28th September - 5th October

FURNITURE DESIGN

Victor Karafyllis

Friday 16th - Friday 23rd July

For his series of furniture - four chairs, two benches, a desk and a table, Victor Karafyllis used old wood, mainly roof battens that he found.

The furniture were created without any prior drawings. He started with an idea and developed it further during construction. Besides the shape, an important criterion was that the furniture, especially the chairs, should be comfortable.



SCULPTURE

Eleni Papazoglou

Monday 9th - Monday 23rd August

Through mimicking, pulling, stretching, piercing, pressing, combining and embossing, Eleni Papazoglou has been experimenting with treating surfaces that enclose, protect and cover such as plastic, bark and untreated wool.



CERAMIC LAMP DESIGN

Theodoros Tzannetakis

Tuesday 10th - Monday 30th August

Theodoros Tzannetakis used his stay in the hermitage to realise his first designs for ceramic lamps. Based on these attempts, he will after his period of the residency develop a series of lamps.

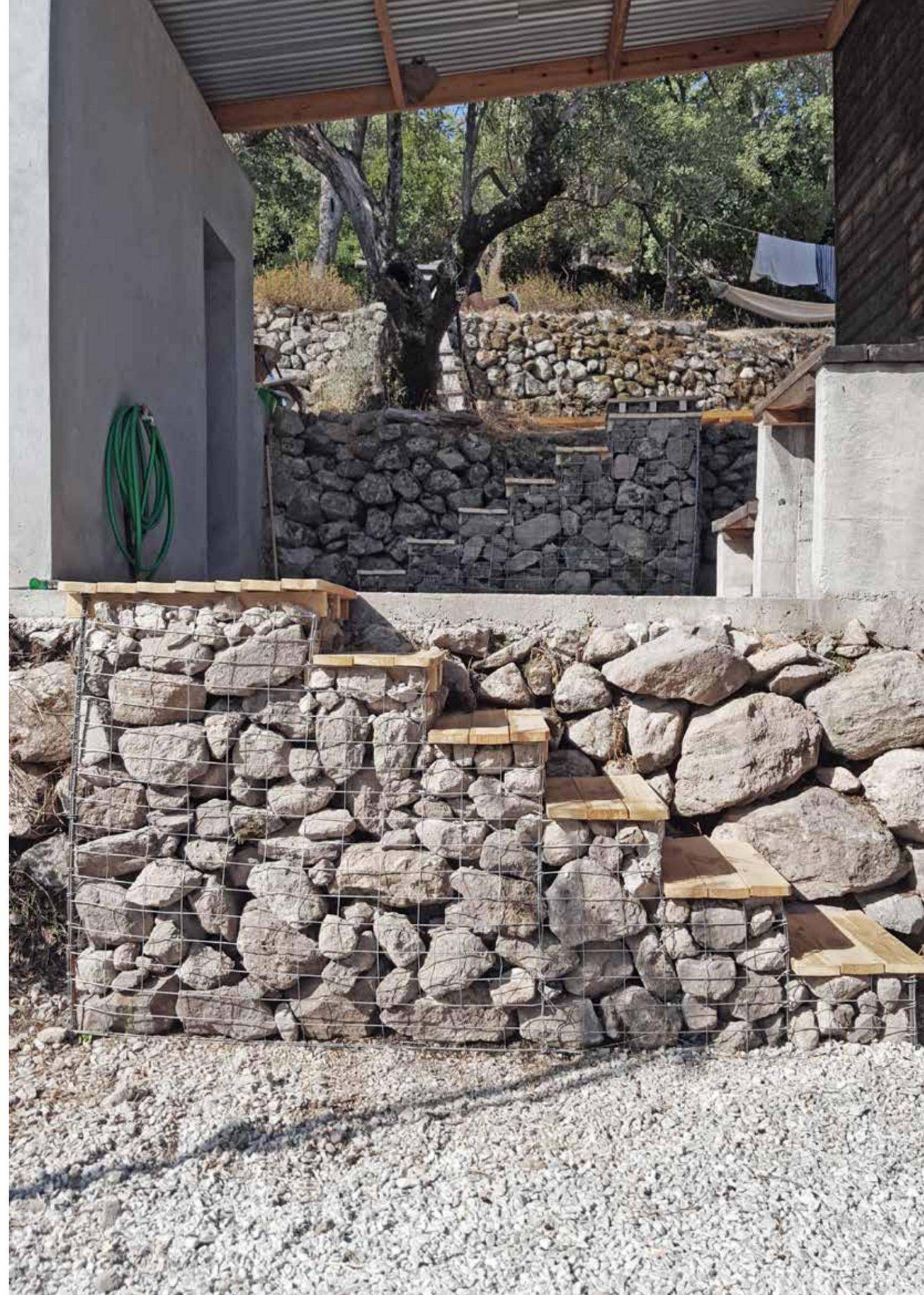


STAIRWAY CONSTRUCTION

Wolfram Sinapius

Wednesday 11th - Monday 29th August

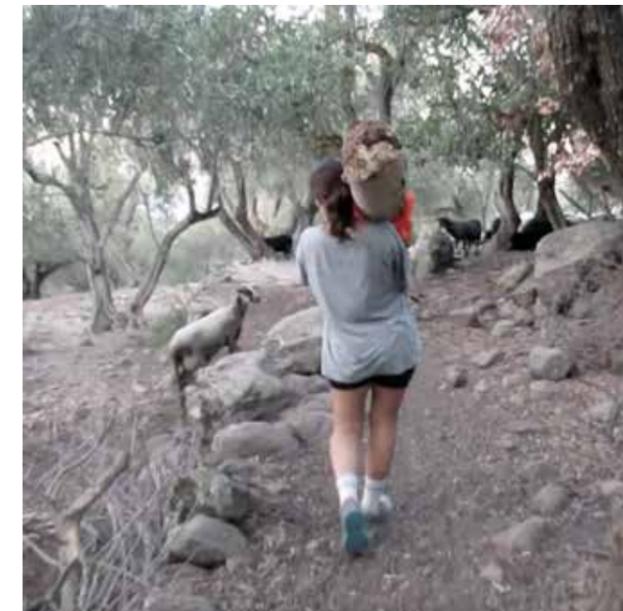
Wolfram Sinapius built new stairways as a designed system of primary and secondary thoroughfares to connect new areas and buildings and make the whole olive grove more accessible. Dry stone walls have been used for many centuries to make agricultural areas more accessible and useable. From the beginnings of human cultures impressive stone remains can be found around the world. UNESCO manifested dry stone walls in Greece and other European Countries as an immaterial cultural heritage. Built in perfect harmony with nature these constructions combine design, creative work with natural materials and ecological aspects. The gaps in between stones provide a habitat for plants and animals. Wolfram Sinapius built two stairways using the Gabion technique, which includes wire/steel (frame/basket), natural stones (filling/fundament) and wood (top surface/steps).



SCULPTURE, PERFORMANCE, VIDEOART

Eirini Tiniakou and Walter Götsch
29th August - 6th September

„Dolphin1 meets ANKORITE“, video with found materials from Sykaminea area. Eirini Tiniakou and Walter Götsch base this video on a realm where two characters meet under some state of emergency or withdrawal from the contemporary living. On one side, the Dolphin1 is a symbol that generally exists in its literal pop form as well as being an entity that deals with emergence, addiction, trust and abstraction. On the other hand the ANKORITE is an arbiter for an anti establishment. It's motivation lies in the entanglement towards the root. These concepts come together in the form of a log descending from the mountain to the sea. The dialogue creates wishes of realignment, collective self — determination and re-rooting to the origin.

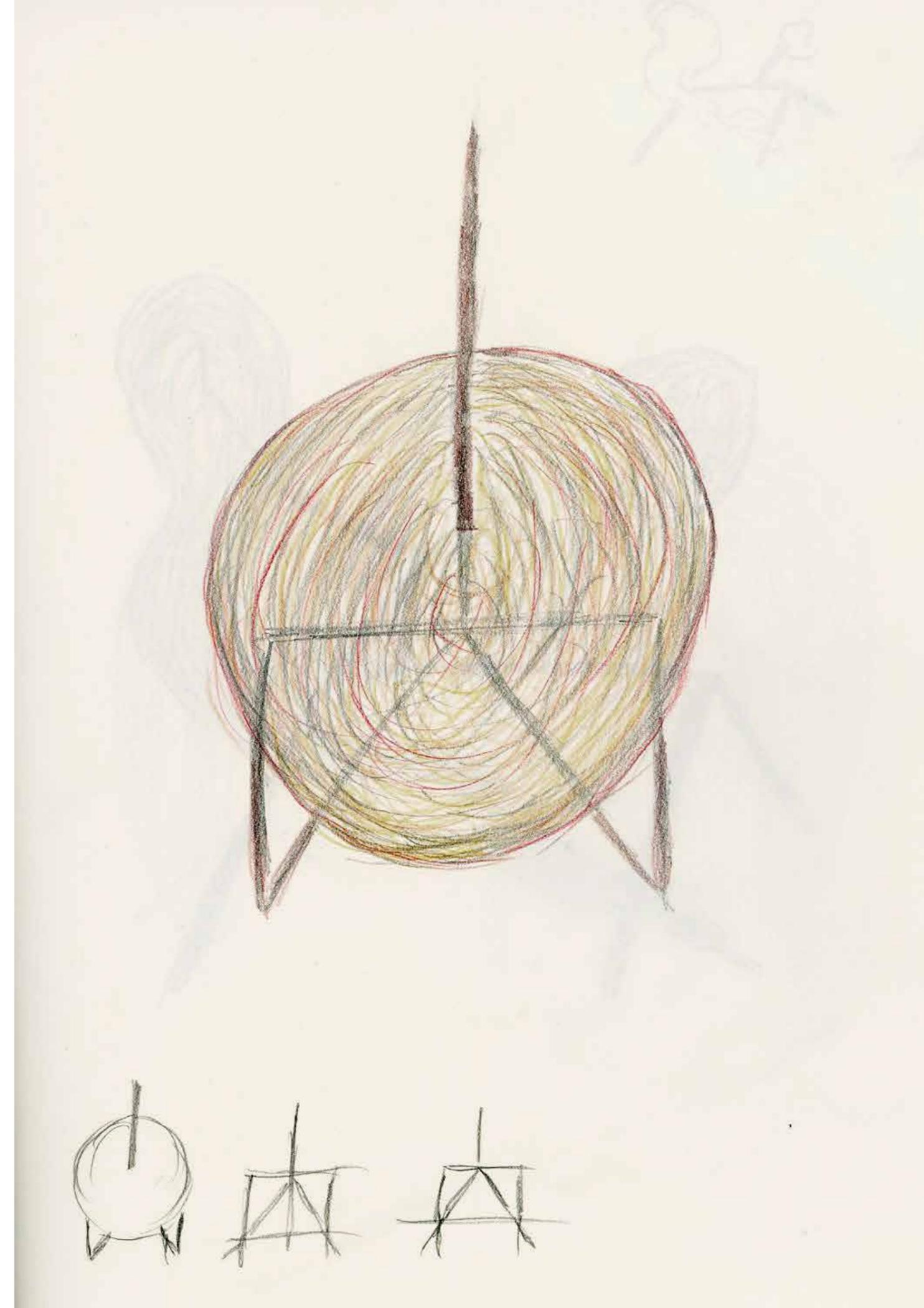


DRAWING, SCULPTURE, FASHION, PHOTOGRAPHY

Tomás Eyzaguirre

Sunday 19th - Thursday 30th September

In his past residency at Hermitage Sykimenea, Tomás Eyzaguirre revisited his experience as a fashion photographer by building a simple wood structure in a specific pose, dressing it in a deconstructed fast-fashion t-shirt, and then photographing it within the canons of fashion editorial photography. In the second visit he sought to enhance the fashion aspect of the experiment by using sheets of felt to accentuate the volume and movement of the model, thereby removing the focus from the structure itself and bringing it to the garment.



PARTICIPANTS
ORGANIZERS
CREATIVE PARTNER

PARTICIPANTS

Sepake Angiama (UK), Fani Bitou (GR), Tomás Eyzaguirre (CHL), Luis Garay (CO), Byron Kalomamas (GR), Christl Mudrak (GER), Kosmas Nikolaou (GR), Marlene Oeken (GER), Eleni Papazoglou (GR), Marco Pinarelli (IT), Wolfram Sinapius (GR), Eirini Tiniakou (GR) and Walter Götsch (FIN), Theodoros Tzannetakis (GR), Paky Vlassopoulou (GR), Andrew Whittle (UK), EJ Williams (ZA)

Sepake Angiama is a curator and educator interested in discursive practices, the social framework, and how we shape and form our experiences in understanding the world. She is the initiator of Under the Mango Tree: Sites of Learning in cooperation with ifa (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen), Stuttgart. Through notions of unlearning and indigenous knowledge, artist-led project spaces, libraries, and schools interested in unfolding discourses gather to discuss and build radical education practices that destabilize the European canon. Previously, Angiama

was Head of Education for documenta 14, Kassel, 2017; Director of Education for Manifesta 10, Saint Petersburg, 2014; and Curator of Public Programmes at Turner Contemporary, Margate. She has created education programmes for several institutions, including Tate Modern, London, and Hayward Gallery, London. Angiama lives and works in transition.

Fani Bitou studied at the National Technical University of Athens and at the Athens School of Fine Arts. Her postgraduate studies were on documentary at the University of the Aegean. She has participated in group exhibitions and art workshops and directed the art documentaries ,Lives and Works‘ (2013) and ,Monument‘ (2016). Her documentary ,The Words of Niaz‘ (2017) was supported by the Greek Documentary Association and was screened at the Chalkida Greek Documentary Festival.

Tomás Eyzaguirre is a Chilean artist based in Berlin. He began working with photography and moving images in 2012, mainly in collaborative projects in fashion and music. Over the years he has expanded into the disciplines of instal-

lations, performance and music. His work has been published in print publications like AB international, Solar, Maps, Dmag, Harpes Bazaar, Issue; and in digital publications like Vogue Italia, Noisy, Dazed and Confused, Fucking Young, Kaltblut, and Infringe. He has participated in exhibitions in Mahalla Cultural Center, KuLe, and 8 Rooms Gallery, and performed at HOR, The Ballery, and at Ernesto Artillo’s artist residency in Spain. In 2020 he developed the ongoing project “Queer Kalendar of Berlin”, whose proceeds are donated to a local queer rights organization.

He is currently being featured in ,Die Hasen Stunde‘, a 30-page artist book in newspaper format dedicated to his work and finishing the first album of his second music project “Auno”.

Luis Garay creates through choreographic systems landscapes and environments that destabilize our ideas of productivity, time and presence. He named each of his projects: ,Temporal Objects‘. He often works with ecstatic bodies. He is interested in approaching the body, mind, psychological, social and the intimate as always interconnected, as a moebius strip. He is interested in the force of iteration. He created

the Action Laboratory Experimental programme for emerging performance creators in the Buenos Aires Theater Complex, Argentina. He was invited to direct the residencies for artists LOTE1, Sao Paulo and OUTRAS DANÇAS, Porto Alegre, Brazil. He recently presented his research at ARCO, Madrid Contemporar Art Fair, Walker Art Center USA, Pompidou Metz France, Rhom Theater Japan, Panorama Festival Rio de Janeiro, Malta Festival Poznan among others.

Walter Götsch is a Finnish artist who works with sculpture, textile and performance. He holds an MFA from the Sandberg Instituut in Amsterdam - Dirty Art Department (2018) and Bachelor of Fashion design and textile from Helsinki Aalto University (2016). Recently he exhibited at a group show 'A Funeral for Street Culture' in Amsterdam's Framer Framed exhibition space, and had an exhibition titled 'Huomenta Suomi' at Gallery Kalleria in Helsinki, Finland. He recently received the Finnish Insitute in Athens TelepART grant, and the work grant from Art Promotion Centre Finland. He is currently based in Finland and Greece.

Byron Kalomamas studied at the Athens School of Fine Arts and completed his Master's at Goldsmiths, University of London. He has participated in group shows and screenings at Chisenhale Gallery and Seventeen Gallery in London, Kunstbau in Munich and at the Michael Cacoyannis Foundation in Athens. His work has been supported by the Schilizzi Foundation, the Gilbert Bayes Foundation and other organisations. Between 2013 and 2016 he was an active member of the artist-run initiative Circuits & Currents in Athens, while in 2019 he co-founded, along with Sepake Angiama, the Module for temporary Infrastructures, an ongoing research series presented at St Lucas School of Arts in Antwerp.

Christl Mudrak studied Art History in Augsburg and at the FU Berlin. She continued her studies in Painting at the KHB Weissensee Berlin and absolved her MFA at Goldsmiths College, London. Between 2011-16 she did her PhD at the Academy of Fine Arts Prague. Her work experience includes workshops i.a. HSLU Luzern and ZHdK Zürich. She has been lecturer at the abk Stuttgart, HBKSaar and guest professor at

the KHB Weissensee Berlin. She has been teaching at the Chair of Architecture and Art, at ETH Zurich. Since 2019 she does collaborative work with the artist group, ‚Donnerstags Klub‘, that mainly works with the medias: painting, performance and installation. Her focus of work is on pictorial versus physical space, psychological spaces and collaborative work.

Kosmas Nikolaou lives and works in Athens. He studied Fine Arts and Architecture in Ioannina (Northwestern Greece), Volos (Central Greece) and Milan. He has participated in group exhibitions in Greece, the Balkans, Europe and the Middle East, in museums and institutions. He has had solo exhibitions at the Rebecca Camhi Art Gallery in Athens, the Büro für Brauchbarkeit in Cologne and Villa Bologna in Malta. He has taken part in several artist residencies in Greece, Germany, Italy, Poland, Malta, Russia, the United Arab Emirates and in the programme ‚Ideas City‘ of New Museum, NYC. Since 2012 he has been a founding member and co-director of the independent artist-run space 3 137 in Athens.

Marlene Oeken is an exhibition and product designer investigating the cultural meaning of (everyday) objects and materials which she translates in spatial experiences. She studied at Hochschule für Gestaltung Karlsruhe and l'Écal/Lausanne. In 2015 - 2016 she worked at the architecture studio OFFICE KGDVS in Brussels and is a founding member of the design collective Exoterika. Since 2018 she is located in Berlin and a member of OH Studio. Her latest works include the interior of Kunsthalle Praha (w/ Axel Kufus and Nic Rauch) and production assistance for artist Haegue Yang.

Eleni Papazoglou lives and works between London and Athens. She operates within institutional, self-organized and educational settings. She studied at the Royal College of Art and Camberwell College of Arts. Recent exhibitions and projects include: Squeezebox (Collective ending, London 2021) the co-direction of the nomadic project space On Wheels (2019-currently) in collaboration with Rosalind Wilson, the group residency Peer Forum (Camden Arts Center, 2020-21) being leading as artist educator at Supersmashers (South London Gallery, 2020-21),

Working Progress (South London Gallery, 2020),
Extra People Extra Power (Arebyte Studios,
2020).

Marco Pinarelli has been based in Lebanon for over a decade working in the region as photographer. In 2020 he moved to Greece and since shares his time between Athens, Beirut and Erresos (Lesvos). He has been working in the production of imagery for the last 15 years. His clients mostly belong to the world of industry, design and architecture, but also art and craftsmanship. As a photographer, he is interested in the production rather than the post-production. Since 2018 he works in collaboration with Casey Knight, illustrator, with which he is building a more collective way of approaching visual productions. Marco Pinarelli has a degree in Law from the University of Florence, a Master in Culture Management from the Cattolica University Milan and from the ICP International Center for Photography in NYC.

Wolfram Sinapius studied architecture at the Brandenburgische Technische Universität Cottbus and Technische Universität Graz. Before his

studies, he completed training as a nurse in Berlin and worked in this field for some years. Since 2009 he is working as an architect. Projects of his include among others the Archaeological Campaign with the Deutsches Archaeologisches Institut (DAI) in Milet (Turkey). He has been working for the Architecture Office Planbest – Greiser Plümpe Architekten and rwplus in Berlin. Since 2018 he works as a freelance architect.

Eirini Tiniakou holds an MFA from the University of Applied Arts Vienna - Art and Science (2021) and a BFA from the Athens School of Fine Arts (2018). Recently she exhibited in group shows with Laurenz and The Dessou in Vienna and has been represented at Parallel Art Fair. During her master studies she developed a project with CERN and presented a collective show at the Venice Biennale Sessions. Previously, she participated in a workshop with Omer Fast and performed in documenta14 for Ibrahim Mahama. Her practice entails mainly photography, text, and textile-hybrids with a focus on tradition and manual work in rural environment.

Theodoros Tzannetakis resides in Athens, Greece. In 2019 he received his Bachelor's Degree in Fine Art Sculpture from Camberwell College of Arts in London. He has participated in exhibitions at The Old Deptford Police Station (2018), CGP Gallery (2018), Copeland Gallery (2019) all in London. In 2016 he participated and co-organised the Athens U-Cave residency in Athens Greece. He recently has been working as an oral researcher for Istorima, an oral history organisation based in Athens.

Paky Vlassoupoulou participated in the International Studio and Curatorial Program (ISCP) NYC; Artworks— Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) Artist Fellowship Programme; Phenomenon 3, The Association Phenomenon and the Kerenidis Pepe Collection, Anafi Island; WHW Akademija, Zagreb; The Equilibrists, a project by the New Museum, NYC and the DESTE Foundation, Benaki Museum, Athens; AIR Residency Antwerpen, Antwerp.

Andrew Whittle is a multimedia artist with an interest in folklore, ritual and magic. Through

meditative processes he creates relics that bridge the gap between the physical and metaphysical, healing the rift between society and environment. Currently his work tackles climate and ecological issues through Art as conservationism and activism. The prerogative is to use only waste materials to create works that challenge societies destructive behaviours that are leading us further away from a symbiotic relationship with the planet.

EJ Williams explores themes of spaces for solidarity as a supplementary praxis to her architectural work, and everyday life. Her interests lie in degrowth, a right to housing and healthcare, collectivised living, earth-hairs, indigenous and vernacular practices and knowledges around building materials and aikido. As a practicing architect in Berlin she works on housing, with many years experience on collective housing, on hospital and research laboratories, and participatory planning. She has been a member of the informal university in foundation since 2006, a self-organised platform for sharing and working on emancipatory practices. Recent and ongoing work with Savas Boyraz looks at ecological

impacts from colonial military practices in North Kurdistan (Bakurê) and proposes new imaginings of resistances. Williams has participated in exhibitions in the UK, France, Holland, Germany, with works shown at the Venice Biennale.

ORGANIZERS

Andreas Sell lives in Sykaminea (Lesvos) and Berlin. He holds a degree from the School of Art and Design Berlin Weißensee in Sculpture and from the German Academy of Management (Berlin) in Cultural Management. His artistic practice has been supported by the German Academic Exchange Service, the Pollock Krasner Foundation, the Stiftung Kunstfonds Bonn and the Berlin Senat. In 2016 he founded the Hermitage Sykaminea as place of retreat and began in 2020 to restructure it as place of artistic encounter.

Julie Loi is living in Mytilene (Lesvos) and Berlin. After graduating in Philology from the Free University of Brussels (ULB) she pursued her studies in the UK gaining a M.A. in Arts Administration from Anglia Polytechnic Cambridge and a M.Sc. in European Studies at the London School of Economics. In the last fifteen years she has pursued her career as a performer and manager of the Mytilene based music band Alcalica that performed shows across Europe and Turkey.

Victor Karafyllis studied sound engineering in London and returned to his native island of Lesvos after his studies, where he was in charge of the summer department of the Athens School of Fine Arts in Molivos. In parallel, he worked on various horticultural projects and deepened his knowledge of permaculture. In the future, he will devote more time to his garden and forest and build his own garden project there.

CREATIVE PARTNER

K-Gold Temporary Gallery was founded by Nicolas Vamvouklis in 2014 on Lesvos. It aims to bring contemporary art closer to everyone through exhibitions, performances, publications, and educational programmes. The Gallery has presented the work of acclaimed artists such as Joan Jonas, Bas Jan Ader, Lucy + Jorge Orta, Ilias Papailiakis, and Jonathas de Andrade. Recent partnerships include the Metropolitan Organization of Museums of Visual Arts of Thessaloniki and the Italian Council while in 2015, it received a distinction as an innovative initiative by Nantes Metropole.

www.hermitage-sykaminea.org
INSTAGRAM: hermitage_sykaminea