

Community Project Kypseli 2016 – The Ring

30.05 – 05.06.2016

Municipal cinema STELLA - 34 Tenedou Str., Kypseli
Curator: Helena Papadopoulos | Radio Athènes

Monday 30/5

18:30 - 19:30 Gardening

20:30 - 21:00 Screening: Robert Ashley *Perfect Lives I* (1984), *THE PARK* (Privacy Rules)

21:00 - 22:00 Screening & talk: Pierre Bal-Blanc, *Employment Contract* (1992)

Tuesday 31/5

18:30 - 20:30 Gardening

20:30 - 22:00 Screening: Robert Ashley *Perfect Lives II* (1984), *THE SUPERMARKET* (Famous People),

Perfect Lives III (1984), *THE BANK* (Victimless Crime), *Perfect Lives IV* (1984), *THE BAR* (Differences)

Wednesday 1/6

18:30 - 19:30 Gardening

20:30 - 21:00 Screening: Marck Leckey, *GreenScreenRefrigeratorAction* (2010)

21:00 - 21:40 Talk: Dexter Sinister, *Opening thoughts*

21:40 - 22:40 Live: Paolo Thorsen Nagel

Thursday 2/6

18:30 - 19:30 Gardening

20:00 - 21:00 Live: The Singing Head, *All day dance and play*

21:00 - 22:00 Live: *The Hydra*

22:00 - 23:00 Live: Michalis Moschoutis & Ilan Manouach

Friday 3/6

18:30 - 20:30 Gardening

20:30 - 21:45 Screening: Robert Ashley *Perfect Lives V* (1984), *THE LIVING ROOM* (The Solutions), *Perfect Lives VI* (1984),

THE CHURCH (After the Fact), *Perfect Lives VII* (1984), *THE BACKYARD* (T' Be Continued)

Saturday 4/6

11:00 - 14:30 Y2, Music workshop for children

Sunday 5/6

11:00 - 14:30 Y2, Music workshop for children

Free admission

PARTICIPANTS

Taxiarhis Andritsopoulos, agronomist and writer

common room, architects

Pierre Bal-Blanc, Documenta 14 curator

Dexter Sinister, designers

Ilan Manouach, musician

Michalis Moschoutis, musician

Dimitris Papadatos (The Hydra), composer and sound artist

Helena Papadopoulou, artistic director of Radio Athènes

Aris Siafas (The Singing Head), performer and songwriter

Paolo Thorsen Nagel, musician and artist

Y2: Michalis Moschoutis, musician & Maria Kachramanoglou, visual artist

Community Projects is an initiative NEON established in 2013, with two such projects to be realized annually. Their aim is to implement contemporary art programs in Athenian neighbourhoods that rely on the participation of local inhabitants, independent groups and artists. These Community Projects, form a living field of artistic activities in which artists give prominence, along with citizens, to issues that concern specific local communities. Projects that are based primarily on the participation of the specific local community, can begin to create a mental shift. How can a community begin to redefine and reimagine the notion of shared space, shared values and collective common interests.

When NEON invited me to curate a week of events at the open air municipal cinema *Stella*, in Kypseli, in the context of their Community Projects -an initiative that aims to expose the people of Athens to different forms of art- two things came to mind: the obvious, to reinstitute the original use of *Stella* with daily screenings, and *The Ring*, a circular steel ring based on an original design by Dutch architect Aldo van Eyck in 1948 and re-considered, adapted and re-produced by the architectural practice and collaborative platform common room.

The selection of the material makes no claim to a theme, though music, the spoken word, the performative and opticality are the binding agents. As the sun will be setting the screen will host *Perfect Lives* (1984), a 'cerebral, poetic, regional, universal, perfervid, pathbreaking' opera for television in 7 episodes by American composer and writer Robert Ashley; *Employment Contract* (1992), a short film by Documenta 14 curator Pierre Bal-Blanc; and *GreenScreenRefrigeratorAction* (2010) a film by artist Mark Leckey selected by Dexter Sinister.

The Ring, which serves the purpose of a stage open to both audience and 'performers', will host Dexter Sinister- which is the compound name of Stuart Bailey and David Reinfurt- who will share Opening Thoughts on the *The Ring* and the *asterisk*; Pierre Bal-Blanc who will discuss, among other things, the affects of his experience as a performer in Felix Gonzales-Torres' *Untitled* (Go Go Dancing Platform) (1991); and five live music performances that will be closing each evening. The Hydra, that 'juxtaposes forms and ideas intentionally improvised, and their diffusion into a thoroughly composed outcome'; The Singing Head, a song writer and performer who will be rehearsing 'All day dance and play'; Paolo Thorsen Nagel 'who concentrates on the materiality of sound and its relationship to physical and psychological space'; and lastly, saxophone player Ilan Manouach with guitarist Michalis Moschoutis who 'with no clear purpose, but with a strong sense of determination and commitment will manifest the physicality of live music and the ephemeral nature of sound.'

In the afternoon, *Stella* will be open to children who want to learn about plants and how to take care of them under the guidance of agronomist and writer Taxiarhis Andritsopoulos while on the weekend Y2 will lead a workshop on experimental music addressed to 8-16 year olds.

NEON and Radio Athènes hope that *The Ring* at *Stella* will provide an oasis and source of inspiration for the local community in the hot summer days and nights of June which will ignite a process for the open air cinema to start operating again.

Helena Papadopoulou / Radio Athènes / May 2016