

NEON

PRESS RELEASE

Athens, September 6th , 2017

THE THEATER OF DISAPPEARANCE

Talk by prof. Manolis Plionis, President of the BoD and Director of National Observatory of Athens

September 16th, 2017

Hill of the Nymphs, National Observatory of Athens

The exhibition *The Theater of Disappearance* continues in September, enriched with parallel events.

On Saturday September 16th, within the context of the exhibition, prof. Manolis Plionis, President of the BoD and Director of the National Observatory of Athens, will talk about the *"Birth and Evolution of the Universe: Contemporary Approaches"*.

The Professor will present the modern cosmological paradigm as it has been shaped throughout the last decades. The last century is considered the most important for the evolution of the science of cosmology both from the theoretical and observational point of view. The elaborate analysis of satellite and ground-based observations converge to a pattern which upholds that the universe was created with a "Big Bang" about 13.8 billion years ago and since then it is continuously expanding, and interestingly over the last 7 billion years with an accelerating pace. The fundamental pillars that support this contemporary cosmological narrative will be presented, as well as the most significant discoveries that changed radically our perception of the Universe.

The talk will start at 8.00pm

After Mr. Plionis' talk, a screening of the film trilogy *The Theater of Disappearance (EL TEATRO DE LA DESAPARICIÓN)*, directed by Argentinian artist Adrián Villar Rojas will take place. The trilogy premiered at the Berlin International Film Festival in February 2017. The trilogy attempts to depict the existing state of latent war that seems to be throbbing underneath the entire human landscape with its multiple environments and the particular conditions of existence it encompasses.

From Mexico City to Beirut, from Shanghai to Kabul, from New York to Jerusalem, passing through Qatar, Paris, Palestine, Yangji-ri or Athens, Villar Rojas tries to take samples of these ominous signs out of small actions, everyday gestures and silent corners of a planet that seems to be moving (slower or faster, overtly or imperceptibly, always in relation to the position, the day, even the time of our existence) towards its actual disappearance, at least as we know it today.

The parts of the trilogy were filmed by Villar Rojas during his travels in various parts of the world. His goal was to record the everyday activities of the people, the landscapes and the processes of nature, emphasizing the minor details that gradually disconnect from the whole, gaining their separate hypostasis.

A war on Earth - Una Guerra en la Tierra (Runtime: 42 min)

The film was part of Villar Rojas' solo exhibition Fantasma (Ghost), at Moderna Museet of Stockholm, 2015. Curated by Lena Essling, Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden.

Filmed during 2012-2015.

Directed by Adrián Villar Rojas, produced by REI CINE SRL

Unknown Soldier (Runtime: 22 min)

The film was part of Villar Rojas' participation in the Marrakech Biennale 6. It was filmed in February 2016 at the Moroccan towns of Tamaslouht, Oumnass, Asni and Ain Mezouar, at Margha Mountains, on the road to Ourika, Al Haouz region.

Directed by Adrián Villar Rojas, produced by REI CINE SRL.

The Most Beautiful Moment of War - El Momento más Hermoso de la Guerra (Runtime: 56 min)

The filming took place from August 2014 to November 2016 at the village Yangji-ri, Cherwon, South Korea.

Directed by Adrián Villar Rojas, produced by REI CINE SRL, co-produced by REAL DMZ PROJECT Committee, Korea.

The screenings will start at 9.30pm

The exhibition *The Theater of Disappearance* continues at the Hill of the Nymphs until September 24. Every day the exhibition changes, transforms, matures and gradually completes its life circle, as a «living organism», in tune with the artist's references to human nature.

THE THEATER OF DISAPPEARANCE

Hill of the Nymphs, National Observatory of Athens

June 1 – September 24, 2017

New opening hours from September 1st 2017

Wednesday to Friday 12.00 to 8.00pm, Saturday and Sunday 10.00am to 8.00pm

Free Entrance

For more information, visit neon.org.gr

Reliant Communications

Efi Lazaridou

T: 210 6839839, 6932 296850

E: elazaridou@reliant.gr