

Who cares about antiquity nowadays? What do the findings of the past mean for the citizen of the 21st century? Do the museums still function as salons de curiosités where the travellers of Cyclades seek in the mass of the exhibits for the peculiar artefacts or the masterpieces of the past? Does for the Greek visitor remain simply a cover of over-replenishment of Modern Greek *cachexia*?

How may one satisfy—if it even possible to be satisfied—this constantly evolving atavistic need to see through the archaeologists' narratives within the museums? Do the archaeologists have the answers to all this existential questions about the museums they manage? Obviously not. That's why we displace to modern art our anguish about the influence of the museumification of the past on today's constantly changing momentum. Several artists with entirely different starting points were invited to be inspired by the antiquities, to retell their stories, and ultimately to decide through their creation for the usefulness of the monumental heritage in 21st century society.

Five museums in the Cyclades participate in this creative process: Kouphonisi, Melos, Crispi Tower and Sangri in Naxos, and the Andros Archaeological Museum. Inhabitants and visitors will have the chance to participate in this experiment.

Dimitris Athanasoulis
Ephor of Cyclades

HOPE is a contemporary Greek artist that has formed his personal idiom outside the customary art education, finding his starting point as a street artist. Even in the initial expressions of his artistic language, antiquity constituted a significant element of his manifestation.

In his recent creations HOPE remains loyal to the two-dimensional large-scale assemblages, that already characterised his work, and, at the same time, he takes interest on clay, a material that seems to progressively form a significant role in his visual expression. The manual processing of this creative direction along with the adopted forms, spontaneously result in apparent correlations with the archaeological past. Nevertheless, these works always bear visual components that negate the values of symmetry, perfection, and aesthetic integrity.

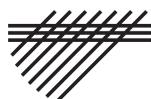
In this exhibition, that takes place at the Andros Archaeological Museum, with the support of Outset Contemporary Art Fund (Greece), the artist will develop a range of materials and visual expressions that will be dispersed all over the museum. Collages, three-dimensional assemblages, pottery, performance on the opening day and its projection at video room of the museum, will find their place among the original archaeological finds, as well as in the building shell of this significant architectural structure.

HOPE attempts to become a body within a body. His visual material acts as a symbolic language or manifesto that helps us understand how to communicate with the creations of the past. Space is created and shaped in relation to other bodies, but first and foremost by our own body.

My creations existed long before me; you just couldn't see them.

Stefanos Kermaidas
Exhibition Curator

ANDROS ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM, ANDROS HORA 20 JULY-30 SEPTEMBER 2018 | 9:00-16:00, TUESDAY TO SUNDAY



**Ephorate of
Antiquities
of Cyclades**

OUR HERITAGE:
WHERE THE PAST
MEETS THE FUTURE



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We would like to thank staff-members of the Ephorate of Antiquities of Cyclades, Yianni Mitsouli, Yianni Staikopoulos, Panayiotis Koulouris, Maria Xenou, Photini Photopoulou and Pavlo Phylakto, as well as the contributors for the performance Stergios n-tek and Sugahspank, for their valuable help.

Hope is represented by The Breeder Gallery.