

## *Statues that don't move, don't speak, don't laugh*

The exhibition *Statues that don't move, don't speak, don't laugh* presents seven new works in public space, in two squares and one basketball field in the area of Amerikis Square and Kato Patissia.

The exhibition title refers to the popular children's game, common in many countries under different names: 'Statues', 'Red Light, Green Light', 'Grandmother's footsteps', 'Statues that don't move, don't speak, don't laugh' in Greek: the children who play have to remain still, like statues, when the 'Curator' (or 'It', 'Granny' etc.) turns around and looks at them.

The exhibition focuses on the element of play, explores the relationship between objects, bodies and spaces, their motion and stillness, while it approaches movement and contemplation as both active and reflective processes. It is based on a random encounter with the artworks, on an impromptu that engages not only the gaze but the whole body, like the children-statues 'freeze' on the posture that the look of the 'Curator' catches them.

The works – sculptures, interventions and gestures on the space, performances – static or mobile, interfere with the activity and inactivity of each space, engage with the landscape while altering it in reference to a symbolic and imaginary landscape as that of play.

The three exhibition spaces are independent but compose an itinerary parallel to Patission Avenue. The spaces include Pavlou Bakoyianni Square that remains closed to the public, Kalliga or Karamanlaki Square, and the basketball field and surrounding park on the corner of Samara and Kambouroglou streets. Every space has its own character and all together look like secret gardens in a neglected part of Athens. They are oases and holes in the urban grid, they balance between openness, inaccessibility and abandonment unfolding the potential and problems of public space.

Participating artists: Anastasia Douka, Dora Economou, Chrysanthi Koumianaki, Aliko Panagiotopoulou, Rallou Panagiotou, Kostas Roussakis, Kostas Tzimoulis

Curated by Galini Notti

Exhibition spaces:

Pavlou Bakoyianni Square, between Agathoupoleos 14 and Thiras 31 streets (the works are visible from the outside as the square remains closed to the public)

Kalliga or Karamanlaki Square, between Efpalinou and Karamanlaki streets

Basketball field and surrounding park on the corner of Samara and Kambouroglou streets at Kato Patissia

Duration: 1 – 31 October 2020

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