

Press Release

Exhibition Title: **Never Cross the Same River Twice**

Subtitle: **Chapter 2: Transhistorical Investigations**

Address: space52, Kastorias 52 - Athens

Duration: June 12 - September 25, 2021.

Opening Hours: Open to the public on weekends 10:00 a.m. - 13:00 p.m., 19:00 p.m. - 22:00 p.m. Open on weekdays only by appointment.

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Participating Artists Part I: Monica de Miranda, Moataz Nasr, Emo de Medeiros, Harold Offeh, Longinos Nagila, Ahmet Ögüt, Gilivanka Kedzior, Marinella Senatore, Daisuke Takeya, Sammy Baloji and Lazara Rosell Albear

Participating Artists Part II: Valentina Karga, Stefanos Tsivopoulos, Mary Zygouri, Ariana Papademetropoulos, Eva Papamargariti and George Drivas

Curated by Kisito Assangni and Ariana Kalliga

Never Cross the Same River Twice, curated by French-Togolese independent curator Kisito Assangni and Greek-British curator Ariana Kalliga, is a time-shifting survey of performances converging between video, film and installation. Initiated as a travelling research project in 2020, the exhibition connects two borders that unfold in tandem, tracing the recent video practices of 11 international artists selected by Assangni and 6 Greek artists invited into dialogue by space52, Athens. The exhibition embraces expansive videographies that aim to foster new forms of transnational and collective assembly.

The selected video works act as sites of visual contestation; cinematic aesthetics with narratives that re-remember; they reclaim histories and ancestries; decolonize both the mind and the imagination. Referencing Heraclitus' river, which conceived identity as an ever-evolving and fluctuating entity, the title of the exhibition is a call to invent new grounds in place of entrenched environmental, political, and regulatory systems.

Exploring the limits of film as activism, several of the participating works reflect what Argentine scholar, Walter D. Mignolo, termed the 'epistemic disobedience and decolonial freedom' needed to rebuild just and non-colonial futures.

From a 'coming community' to a planetary escape, the exhibition opens up uncanny spectral exits to new geopolitical imaginaries. Accompanied by a parallel series of bi-weekly screenings and talks, including a night organized by the Athens School of Fine Arts (LAB12), *Never Cross the Same River Twice* aims to expand and densify the interconnected motifs weaved through the exhibition program; history, ancestry, ethnography, spirituality, memory, colonization, Afrofuturism, feminism, diaspora, identity, globalization, consumerism, myth.

Team

Curators: Kisito Assanghi and Ariana Kalliga

Project Advisor: space52 Founder, Dionisis Christofilogiannis

Communications Coordinator: Dimitra Michail

Design: Pantelis Vitaliotis-Magneto and Virginia Russolo

Public Program Guest Curators: Argyro Nicolaou, Samantha Ozer, Evi Roumani (LAB12, Athens School of Fine Arts), Menelaos Karamaghiolis

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