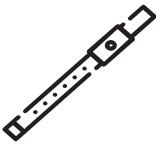


XARKIS FESTIVAL 2019

Xarkis Festival 2019 will take place in Polystipos (Nicosia District) from the 16th-18th of August and will showcase the results of our Artists' Residency program which will have begun from the 11th of August, alongside a series of additional activities over the course of three days.

In Xarkis' 2018 Artists' Residency program and Festival edition, we focused on the themes of **"bottom-up heritage"**, **"symbiosis"** and **"hybridity"**. Starting from these ideas in combination with the meaning of the word Xarkis, which implies to start all over again and to reset our defaults, for this year we have put together a Festival program which questions, disrupts and re-evaluates the theme of Borders.

FRIDAY - 16TH OF AUGUST EXPERIMENTAL ZIAFETTIN



18:30 - with local musicians Andreas Christakkos, Kemal Deveci and Aziz Kahraman, Moses Markou + residents Emilio Aguilar (AR, NL), Siedl Cao (VN, AT) + George Bizios (CY)

Our inaugural celebration and collaborative experimental called **"Ziafettin"** will include a repertoire influenced by music traditions from across the globe.

It will center on the interaction and improvisation of musicians that represent different traditions and generations. The aim is to remind us that music as art and as a form of communication has the special quality of bringing people closer, eliminating all borders we may have within. - **Andreas Christakkos** was born in Mousoulita in 1953 and lives in Avgorou. He is renowned for his pithkiavlin (flute) playing and tsiatista, (a form of battle poetry).

- **Kemal Deveci** (zurna) and **Aziz Kahraman** (davul) come from Galinoporni, a village in Karpasia. They have been playing music together since their teens. They have performed the Cypriot traditional repertoire linked to the zurna-davul ensemble in countless weddings and fairs, as well as in many festivals and other events both in Cyprus and abroad. In 2010, Kemal Deveci and Aziz Kahraman were chosen to represent the Turkish Cypriot community in the festivities that were organized to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Republic of Cyprus in Tassos Papadopoulos Stadium in Nicosia.

- **Moses Markou** is a graduate of Music Studies from Aristotle University (Thessaloniki). In the same department he has undertaken an MA in Ethnomusicology (2013-2015). His research interests lie on folk wind instruments of the wider Mediterranean region, site-specific research with recordings of authentic performers, Greek traditional music with emphasis on folk clarinet, modality of Cypriot traditional music and the Cypriot "pythkiavlin", organology of the East and modal musical traditions.

***Please see residents' respective synopses + bios on Saturday's concert.**

SATURDAY - 17TH OF AUGUST WALKS

Walking around the Hazelnut Forest with Orizontes + Youth Centre of Polystipos 9:00

Wanderers: Audio walks with Aristi Pavlou (CY, NL) 16:00 - 18:00

An audio walk which will guide both locals and visitors, offering an alternative experience of the village. By using the village's architecture and spatial layout, participants will walk into its streets and wander into the past and present, following a semi-fictional narrative.

- **Aristi Pavlou** is completing her MA in Scenography from the HKU University in the Netherlands. Having a background in architecture, she is interested in the connections between architecture and scenography and aims to create experiences where space becomes ephemeral. She is investigating how architectural space can acquire performative elements, like temporality, narrative and theatricality.

WORKSHOPS

Creating a collective mural with Twenty three + Nafsika Kyriakidou Ioannou (CY) Part 1, 10:00 - 13:00



Twenty-three is an artist who has been active on the streets since 2013, expressing a particular interest in urban culture while continuing his practice in graphic design. His stencils are mainly in Madrid, La Coruna, Rome, Mexico City and Cyprus. A central feature of his work is to raise questions about Cypriot identity, which is depicted as a continuous negotiation of his relationship with history and tradition.

- **Nafsika Kyriakidou** studied Fashion Design in Cyprus and received a BSc in Marketing & Leadership in London. She worked as a banker for 24 years and has been delving into art from a young age. In the last five years she has been undertaking engraving classes. Her meeting with the master educator in engraving, Hambis Tsaggaris, was a defining moment for her artistic practice. She is a member of the governing board of the "Friends of the Museum of Hambis Tsaggaris" association.

The people's microphone (on queer trauma survival) with Saskia Burggraaf (NL)

**Part 1, 10:30 - 13:00
Part 2, 14:00 - 19:00**

'The people's microphone' creates alternative anthems by using voices as echo/amplification, similar to the Occupy movement. Breaking borders of gender; why do we see shame, trauma, mental issues as a negative 'in need of a cure'? How can we use those elements as power-tools? Shame as rethinking and trauma as activating alternative thinking against capitalist ideas. Non-linear activism told by stories. Maybe you don't consider yourself an activist, but what your body and mind went through creates a different way of thinking, mental disorder is a construct, a cure is an idea of progression claimed by capitalism. We will work in a group of queer/female people.

- By using sound and voice as a conceptual tool, letting other spaces resonate with stories and frequencies, **Saskia Burggraaf** improvises, telling alternative storylines in a non-linear way as a form of resistance. Trauma and the negative outcome of that, (mental issues) can be away of rethinking, fragmenting, reconsidering and reconstructing vulnerability without the capitalis claiming of it. Shame as rethinking borders. Sound and resonance used as a tool is the first step to create alternative anthems to find value commitments not relating to capitalism, but to care and listening.

Filling in the blanks: Solo exploration workshop with Jacqueline van de Geer (CA) 11:00 - 13:00

This workshop explores strategies to create solo performative work, including authentic movement, automatic writing and improvisation.

- **Jacqueline van de Geer** settles in Montreal in 2005. Her hometown, Rotterdam is marked by the Second World War. Growing up in a rebuilding city has taught her to do a lot with almost nothing. Her inspirations for her work are everyday life, Dada and personal memories. She develops performances where spectators are invited to participate. The goal is to transform the distance between the artist and the viewer: the distance will be almost dissipated.

Photographing material culture beyond aesthetic hierarchies with Nicos Philippou (CY) Part 1, 12:00 - 13:30

Aesthetics have been historically divided in the so called "High" and "Low". Art produced in the realm of the elites would be presented and accepted as having more value than forms of culture produced and consumed by the working classes which would be deemed popular and often vulgar. The same applied to everyday objects like furniture and decorations. These boundaries have been challenged within post-modernity. In this workshop, participants will engage in documentation of vernacular material culture, including interiors of homes, coffee-houses, tavernas, grocery stores in Polystipos and will present their results during a critique session the next day.

- **Nicos Philippou** is a photographer with a strong interest in the Cypriot topography and material culture. He has participated in several exhibitions in Cyprus and abroad. His writings on photography, vernacular culture and Cypriot Identity have been published in journals, art magazines and collec-tive volumes whereas his photography has been showcased in periodicals like photographs and Exposure. He is currently lecturing at the Communications Department of the University of Nicosia.

Great Circus of Failure with Petr Laden + Masha Fomenko (RU, DE) 14:00 - 16:00

This is a participatory workshop, leading to a collective performance. Together with local participants we will start by building a collective narration to create an imaginative space. This will ensue with diverse moving practices in the space, as a unified organism to build contact and trust. We will work with objects and make sounds with objects and our own bodies. For the final part of this initiative, we will create a collective performance.

- **Great Circus of Failure** was formed by Petr Laden and Masha Fomenko in spring 2018, who are based in Berlin and Moscow.

PERFORMANCES

**Coming From Compost: Deep Love Village Tours with Korallia Stergides (CY, UK) Part 1, 10:45 - 11:45
Part 2, 18:30**



Deep Love is an amalgamation of all the love and properties in the world that are being extracted, deteriorating, saturated and amplified from the planet. An attempt to embody ecological research through personification and use it as a tool to create awareness of the anthropocene and accessibility into post-humanist scientific research and theories through abstract and poetic regurgitation of myth and environmental knowledge. Deep Love will give you an improvised performance into coming from compost.

- **Korallia Stergides** is an MA Student of Fine Art Media at Slade School of Art, University College London, London (2018 - 2020) and graduate of Central Saint Martins Performance Design and Practice (2016). Her work is process led and uses choreographic and spatial processes to interweave experimental film, objects, voice, poetry, performance and installation, creating fiction out of fragments to make playful discoveries through live and mediated spaces.

Feeling in the blanks with Jacqueline van de Geer 14.30 - 16.30

A table, chairs, old pictures, a doll, postcards from ex-colonies of the Netherlands, a table-cloth from my grandmother, a map of Europe, a children's book, souvenirs and a komboloi. We meet. I share stories from myself and the villagers, unveiling how time changes and the changed times urges us to transform the Borders of topics like immigration, borders, cultural changes and emancipation. What we would love to reset if we would have that power?

A Three-Sided Stage with Tail Bend Travel (GB) 17:30

A Three-Sided Stage invites you to collaborate to build a borderless stage. Working with locals, this stage will cross the lines between audience and performer, self and other, exploring how borders connect as much as divide. A Three-Sided Stage is a mobile stage that will tour the festival, collecting and performing stories of connecting as it moves.

- Established in 2016 at the curve of the mid-millennial turn, **Tail Bend Travel** offers the casually curious traveller a walking experience like no other. Twisting together everything you might like to know about a place and more, Tail Bend will transform the way you view every turning. We offer guided tours in person, audio and video format.

SCREENINGS

Documentary with Ewelina Węgiel (PL) 17:00



Documentary film based on interviews and collective actions in Polystipos.

- **Ewelina Węgiel** works and studies in Krakow and Zurich. She commu-nicates with people and communities through art, compulsively filming events that are important to locals and their everyday life.

Supper in Polystipos with Vardit Goldner (IL) 17:30

A video work showing women or families, as they prepare supper and eat it.

- **Vardit Goldner** is a photography and video artist. Goldner is primarily engaged in documenting the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and in particular its effects on the daily life of Palestinians. In her recent work, Goldner creates video works showing people preparing and eating supper. Goldner studied at Beit Berl College, Israel, completing a Postgraduate Fine Arts Program in 2016.

TALKS + OUTCOMES

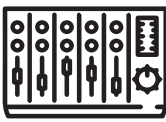
Talk | Boundaries between sound + visual expression with Claudia Torán 18:00 - 19:00

Outcome | The people's microphone (on queer trauma survival) with Saskia Burggraaf 19:50



CONCERT

Doors Open 19:30



Digital Borders: translating together with the algorithm with Emilio Aguilar (AR, NL)

By using GoogleTranslate (GT) as an active partner in creative writing Emilio hopes to demonstrate the ways in which algorithms dissolve the classical distinction between the material and semantic aspects of the voice. Creating assemblages of people using GT to communicate can be understood as a way to acknowledge cultural and linguistic boundaries while simultaneously resisting to GT's inherent uniformism.

- **Emilio Aguilar** is a singer specialized in the performance of historical music – namely repertoire which spans from the 14th to the 17th century. He is currently combining his professional work with an interdisciplinary project between the University of Amsterdam (Cultural Analysis) and the Conservatory of Amsterdam (Early Music Singing), in which he researches material-discursive practices in order to bridge the gap between the speaking/thinking and the singing/performing body.

Transcending musical borders of Sound with George Bizios (CY, NL)

Nowadays, as a result of our technological advancements we can see borders between music genres being stretched and possibilities for expression being expanded. In popular life however, we are still operating within a set of rules that come along with the cultural background of each genre. Byusing 'Free Improvisation', George explores the rather obscure boundaries given in a seemingly vast context of new possibilities.

- **George Bizios** is a guitarist from Limassol. In 2013, he moved to the Neth-erlands where he also completed his music studies. He received lessons on improvisation with some of the most renowned musicians in the German/Dutch creative and free-improvised scene and has participated in many ensembles including jazz bands and multi-disciplinary projects. George is currently residing in Brussels and is active as a band leader and a solo artist.

Super Token - with Siedl Cao (VN, AT)

Super Token is a celebration of fluid boundary between disciplines, between performers and audience, between doing and being, between being grown-up and still being a child at heart. Super Token is a tangible representation of universal human feelings, memories, human inherent qualities of being curious, playful and creative. Found every day objects in combination with light and shadow, acoustic music instruments, modular synthesizer and sensors, are set in interaction with intentional and unintentional human actions.

- **Siedl Cao**, Cao Thanh Lan (VN) and Gregor Siedl (AT), is a Vienna-based composer-performer and sound artist group. Siedl/Cao is one of 5 groups from Austria that received the award New Austrian Sound of Music 2018-2019. With their recent transdisciplinary and sound art works, many of which incorporate site-specific sound installations and audience participation, they research into the relationship and balance between visual and audio elements, intentionality and un-intentionality, nature and artificiality, human and machine.

Dream'n'Bass and poetry performance with Alcalica (GR, DE)

"The music of Alcalica abolishes several pseudo-dilemmas such as 'East-West'. It resolutely brings into equitable dialogue the baglamas and the santoor with contemporary electronics, the aptaliko of Mytilene and the interwar rembetikowith drum'n'bass and urban industrial." (Xagas) The feel of global justice inspires both the polyglot lyrics and the way precious instruments and electronics are woven into a flying carpet. The mutating genres prove de facto that borders exist to be overcome.

- **Alcalica** is a self-produced band from the Island of Lesbos (Gr) and Berlin (D). The duo of multi-instrumentalist Leonidas Danezos and painter/poet Julie Loi play the Persian santoor, Greek baglamas, African Kalimba, hardware electronics and contralto vocals in five languages. In twelve years they have released six vinyl albums and given hundreds of concerts across Europe. Alcalica has opened the concerts of Baba Zula, Dirtmusic, A Hawk and a Hacksaw, Giannis Aggelakas

Synth Folk-World - with Ko Shin Moon (FR)

Cosmopolitanism, Omnisightseeing and Exploration are the creeds of **Ko Shin Moon**. A French formation born in Paris from the artistic fusion between Axel Moon and Niko Shin. Adepts of ethno-musical and eclectic musical experiments, Ko Shin Moon seeks to push genre boundaries further by blending traditional repertoire and instruments from different parts of the world with electronic analog sounds.

Finale | DJ set - with Kraaaouuuu (CY, NL)

SUNDAY - 18TH OF AUGUST WORKSHOPS



The people's microphone (on queer trauma survival) with Saskia Burggraaf

**Part 3, 10:30 - 13:00
Part 4, 14:00 - 17:00**

Great Circus of Failure with Petr Laden + Masha Fomenko Part 2, 11:00 - 13.00

Photographing material culture beyond aesthetic hierarchies with Nicos Philippou (CY) Part 2, 12:00 - 13:30

Creating a collective mural - with Twenty three + Nafsika Kyriakidou Ioannou Part 2, 14:30 - 17:30

PERFORMANCES

A Three-Sided Stage - with Tail Bend Travel 16:00

Great Circus of Failure with Petr Laden + Masha Fomenko 17:30

POP UP

"Kafemio" | womens' gathering - with Xarkis 12:00 - 14:00

This is a temporary gathering open to all women.



SCREENING, TALKS + OUTCOMES



Screening | Supper in Polystipos with Vardit Goldner 14:00

Talk + Screening | Photographing material culture beyond aesthetic hierarchies with Nicos Philippou 15:00

Outcome | The people's microphone with Saskia Burggraaf 18:00



AUDIO WALKS

Wanderers - with Aristi Pavlou 16:00 - 18:00



CLOSING CEREMONY

Masa potluck | Collaborative dinner with Xarkis 19:00

Food in many ways, brings us together. This is a multi-host, cross-cultural gathering where we are each called to bring a home-cooked main dish / side dish / dessert from our original or adoptive culture. The purpose is to celebrate diversity in culture through the language of food and connect through an eating ritual.

FRIDAY + SATURDAY + SUNDAY 16-17-18TH OF AUGUST

EXHIBITIONS + INSTALLATIONS

Reversed borders Marvinina Siniari + Paula Martinez (GR, SP)

In opposition to barriers that divide and separate two realities, we understand limits and borders as rich and diverse places where different realities meet and unexpected situations occur. This is a site-specific, architectural installation, composed of different domestic indoor furniture, creating a physical border that divides the public space in two parts. These new spaces work as points of contact and links between people and question the borders between the public and the private, the exterior and the interior.

- ***Open throughout the Festival.**
- **Paula Martinez** and **Marvina Siniari** are two architects based in Spain and Greece. They met each other while working in an Arts & Culture organ-isation in Portugal, where they realised that they shared common interests and beliefs in architecture and art and have been collaborating ever since. They are highly interested in participatory processes and community-based projects, urban and public space design and sustainable, alternative ways of living in the rural setting.

Voice of Shadow | An interactive participatory installation - with Siedl/Cao

The border between being conscious and unconscious, being controllable and uncontrollable, being the performer and the spectator, between immateriality and physicality, between music and visual arts is what we want to explore in this installation. The position of these borders depends on each person's background and disposition. The "Voice of shadow" is a participatory interactive sound installation for audience gestures, shadows, light sensors and sound synthesis.

Borders of Sound | Audiovisual Installation* with Claudia Torán (SP, GB)

This initiative is based on a multidisciplinary project about the materialization of music and the abstraction of art, with the aim of expanding the limits of both and achieving a multidisciplinary artistic experience. Visual art pieces around a common concept will turn into hybrid pieces thanks to the sound of local music. This work questions the transfer of a tangible object such as a pictorial work or an installation into an abstract form such as sound. Where are the borders of the creative practice?

- ***Open from Friday-Sunday until 18:00.**
- **Claudia Torán** is a Spanish visual artist, illustrator and doctor in Fine Arts based in London. In her PhD about the fusion of visual and musical language, Claudia drew connections both by questioning the transfer of a tangible object such as a pictorial work or an installation into an abstract form such as sound. In her art practice she combines techniques and experi-ments with materials such as digital art and plastic, fabric and wood, acrylic painting and sound, always paying special attention to color and concepts.

On Polystipos | Photography exhibition* with Xenis Xenophontos (CY)

Xenis Xenophontos is characterized by an unparalleled sensitivity to mother nature. Having grown up in the village of Polystipos, he has met - up close and personal - the rich Cypriot countryside. His lens captures the Cypriot farmer and everyday heroes from the village.

- ***Open from Friday-Sunday until 18:00.**
- **Xenis Xenophontos** was born in Polystypos in 1962. From the age of twelve, he began to engage with the art of photography, attending a series of training courses to explore photographic art further. He has participated in various exhibitions and photography competitions in Cyprus and abroad and is a member of the Cyprus Photographic Society.

GAMES

Marbles*, hopperscotch, "ditziiimin" + backgammon.



Bringing back the Tavlin with Marina Kyriakou (CY)

Cypriots traditionally socialise playing Tavlin, a popular board game that illustrates the blurry border between the randomness of luck and the nurturing of skills. This initiative aims to bring local inhabitants together in a collaborative process via the re-design of an Extra Large Tavlin, depicting symbols of Polystipos' culture!

- **Marina Kyriakou** is an architect and urban planner and has completed her studies in France and the Netherlands. Her research and projects focus on transforming underused spaces into community places. She was recently named Bicycle Mayor of Nicosia and she focuses on making built environments more human-centric and fit for the future. Marina is also a member of the NGO Urban Gorillas working on enhancing the notion of public and common space in Cyprus.

***Bring your marbles at the welcome desk of Xarkis Festival at 10:00 on Saturday - Sunday to participate in this game.**

For more information visit our:

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