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ΙΙΑΡΑΡΤΗΜΑ ΒΕΡΟΛΙΝΟΥ

MARK HADJIPATERAS
Jongleur: Capitalizing the Capital
October 5, 2010 – January 28, 2011
Opening: October 4, 2010, 8pm

Hellenic Foundation for Culture, Berlin

Wittenbergplatz 3a, 2nd floor

U-Bahn: U1, U2, U3 / Bus: M19, M29, M46 to Wittenbergplatz

Gallery hours: M-F, 10am – 4pm

In his first solo exhibition in Germany, Mark Hadjipateras presents a selection of sculptures and works on paper at the Foundation of Hellenic Culture, Berlin. Born in London to Greek parents and ensconced for two decades in the New York art world, Hadjipateras is currently based in Athens and continuing the playful trajectory his oeuvre has been mapping since the 1980s.

Above all, Hadjipateras plays with contradictions. His works are almost always characterized by a particular levity, conveyed through exuberant colors and animated forms or, in more subtle instances, through suggestive connotations and innuendos. Yet, this immediately apparent comedic element is balanced by a more deeply inscribed seriousness—an homage to the Modernist and Minimalist traditions from which Hadjipateras emerged as a young artist, a nod to other art historical legacies, an interjection in the daily rhythm of life, or a comment on the human condition.

The exhibition in Berlin presents a cross-section of Hadjipateras' work that focuses on the metropolis and its inhabitants, landscapes and characters invented by the artist that have been worked and re-worked into various combinations: Dadaist sand castles, minimal ceramic cities, racecar-sleek *city dwellers* (Hadjipateras' own term), anthropological robots, looming *totems* (again, the artist's terminology), and other ventures in modern and imagined civilization.

In addition to the works on view in the three gallery rooms of the Hellenic Foundation for Culture, Hadjipateras will present a large-scale bronze sculpture in Wittenbergplatz, titled *Jongleur* (juggler). The balancing acts implied by the work's title and teetering, impossibly vertical form make a specific appeal to the audience in Berlin, where opposing factors have long played an essential role to the identity of the city. This reference appears again in the exhibition's title, which also plays with Berlin as a political and cultural capital, a place filled with opportunities to be capitalized upon.

Hadjipateras' work has been shown in many international contexts, and most recently in solo exhibitions at 12 star gallery, London, and a.antonopolou.art, Athens. In 2008, a large-scale retrospective exhibition was presented at the Municipal Gallery of Athens. The artist is included in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York) and the Dakis Joannou Collection (Athens), among others. In 2002, the artist was commissioned by the Municipal Arts Society of New York and the Metropolitan Transit Authority to create a permanent installation in New York's 28th Street subway station.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a small publication, with text by Maia Gianakos.

Transport provided by



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