

# KVNSTHALLE ATHENA

## PRESS RELEASE

### ***A Cab*** ***Athenian Symposium*** December 4 – 13, 2014

Kunsthalle Athena presents *A Cab* exhibition curated by Valentinas Klimašauskas

**Opening: Thursday, December 4th, 2014, 20:00**

**Participating artists: Andreas Angelidakis, Nick Bastis, Liudvikas Buklys, Antanas Gerlikas, Morten Norbye Halvorsen, Stephanos Kamaris, Laura Kaminskaitė, Mikko Kuorinki, Thanos Kyriakides, Lupo, Ieva Misevičiūtė, Elena Narbutaitė, Robertas Narkus, Carl Palm, Natasha Papadopoulou, Zoë Paul, Angelo Plessas, Michael Portnoy, Dexter Sinister, Ola Vasiljeva**

**Curated by: Valentinas Klimašauskas**

*If cabinet of curiosities were a vehicle...*

“Surprisingly, the Viking 1 lander, which remains on Mars, is considered part of the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum.”

Ann Garrison Darrin and Beth Laura O’Leary, eds., *Handbook of Space Engineering, Archaeology, and Heritage*

Forget causality. A task of pinning down the origins and *raison d’être* of this cabinet of curiosity is rather painstaking and vague. Was it a talking and self-typing typewriter from *Naked Lunch* by William Burroughs, *Boîte-en-valise*, a portable museum by Marcel Duchamp, the news about Harvard geneticists who have successfully stored around 700 terabytes in a single gram of DNA, a found *Ex-libris for a library not yet begun*, *The Third Table*, a booklet by Graham Harman? Was it his friend Timothy Morton, author of *Realist Magic Objects, Ontology, Causality*, who typically reads lectures standing as chairs “are trying to take over”? Or was it a paid visit to a desk – a bed as another model of artists’ studio would also do it – at a studio of a fellow artist, where typically artworks and exhibitions are started? Or was it Epicurus, who made a school out of his garden and not out of the constellation of benches and tables, thus transforming it into an educational vehicle?

Instead of searching of what wasn’t lost, let’s imagine causality as “wholly an aesthetic phenomenon. Aesthetic events are not limited to interactions between humans or between humans and painted canvases or between humans and sentences in dramas. They happen when a saw bites into a fresh piece of plywood. They happen when a worm oozes out of some wet soil. They happen when a massive object emits gravity waves. When you make or study art, you are not exploring some kind of candy on the surface of a machine”, continues Timothy Morton, supposedly still standing.

After a few but productive conversations with artists between Athens and Vilnius and back, a certain phantasm, cyborg or an animal, – most probably all in one –, started to move in our heads. This creature may be called an exhibition, but also it may be a library of objects, a book written in real time, an assemblage, consisting of communicating and choreographed objects, and creating space for potentialities and events. If we may call it an exhibition, it would be as stable as “Medusa raft”, it would research itself and its surroundings as Mars rover, or the aforementioned Viking 1 lander to be more exact, it would be transported as easy as a suitcase with Ryanair, and, what is more important, it would function as a ghostly vehicle, both figuratively and literary, for audience, artists, objects, and imagination.

A special website project by Angelo Plessas: [www.beforeeverything.com](http://www.beforeeverything.com)

A *Cab* is also making an apparition at Podium artists space, Oslo, November 21-23, 2014.

The exhibition is curated by **Valentinas Klimašauskas**.

*Born after Voyager 1 left the Earth, Valentinas Klimašauskas is letters, but also a curator and writer interested in speculative economies of language and uneven distribution of future. His recent book B and/or an Exhibition Guide In Search of Its Exhibition published by Torpedo Press, Oslo, contains written exhibitions that floated in time and space with and within a joke, one's mind, Voyager 1, Chauvet Cave or inside the novel 2666 by Roberto Bolaño. Valentinas lives and works between Athens and Vilnius.*

**For visual material, please visit:**

[www.dropbox.com/sh/80q73haixbi7h6w/AAD0c0vnfjCTPnAMODY7uNjra?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/80q73haixbi7h6w/AAD0c0vnfjCTPnAMODY7uNjra?dl=0)

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[www.kunsthalleathena.org/press](http://www.kunsthalleathena.org/press)

**Duration: December 4 – 13, 2014**

**Opening hours: Thursday – Friday, 17:00 - 20:00, Saturday 12:00 - 15:00**

**Kunsthalle Athena, 28, Kerameikou Street, Kerameikos - Metaxourgeio, Athens, Greece**  
[www.kunsthalleathena.org](http://www.kunsthalleathena.org)

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