

# KUNSTHALLE ATHENA

## PRESS RELEASE

### “Summer in the Middle of Winter”

**A group exhibition in Kunsthalle Athena as part of ReMap 3**

**Opening: Monday 12 September, 17:00**

**Duration: 12/09 – 30/10 (Thursday and Friday 17:00 – 20:30, Saturday, 12:00 – 20:30)**

**28, Kerameikou str, Kerameikos – Metaxourgeio, Athens**

**[www.kunsthalleathena.org](http://www.kunsthalleathena.org), [www.remapkm.com/3/](http://www.remapkm.com/3/)**

**Participating artists:** Alexandra Croitoru, Greece is for Lovers, Vangelis Gokas, Jim Mangan, Rà di Martino, Dimitris Protopapas, Stefania Strouza, Vassiliea Stylianidou, Kimon Tsakiris, Guido van der Werve

Curated by Eleanna Papathanasiadi, Apostolos Vasilopoulos

Assistant curators: Marina Fokidis, Angeliki Roussou

Communications: Daphne Mangaloussi

“**Summer in the Middle of Winter**” exhibition will play on an array of significations departing from its core concepts. Summer here is regarded in its full stereotypical glory, in the image of a blazing Greek summertime; the idea of summer in its superlative. In contrast, winter registers as a time of hibernation, a change in gear following summer’s extrovert spirits. Wintertime appears like a postponement of unfolding, a period of austere expressions and gestures compared to summer’s convivial and upbeat nature.

“**Summer in the Middle of Winter**” describes a power play of dynamics between these two seasons that now represent something more than a weather conditioning: is it summertime that breathes fragile in this symbolical and overwhelming winter or is it winter that strives to survive in this outdoor summer ambience?

In **Kunsthalle Athena**, we imagine a country/a nation/ a land, Greece, transposed in this state. Caught in an indefinable stream of turbulent events that until this very moment inform its political and economical status, Greece experiences currently a major historical undergoing in its structures. “**Summer in the Middle of Winter**” exhibition takes place in the apogee of summer and it stands as a suggestion of sour times contrapuntal to uplifting spirits and vice versa. We hope that visitors in Athens will also make a stop in **Kunsthalle Athena** and encounter a different and starker reality than the one experienced in touristic spots and the Aegean Sea.

As an exhibition, it will try to be an estimation of where we stand currently and an effort to resort to a resilience mode and re-assess the urgency but also the possibilities of the situation. **“Summer in the Middle of Winter”** exhibition seems like a rehearsal for uncertainty during this unprecedented shift, a perplexing though constructive uncertainty, concurrent with the current socio-political shift and one that appears immanent to it, nevertheless not immune to interpretation.

Together with the selected artists, we will attempt to create an environment that stands in juxtaposition to the dominant idea of the standard and ritualised “Greek summer”. The dipole title thus does not accommodate a thematic line, but rather describes a pervasive mood. We are not set to tackle these issues through definite political gestures nor re-imagine the current political tumult in a spectacular manner. All we can possibly offer at this point is to allow or even instigate, through the properties of art, mild conflicts to resurface and present their selves. After all, we are talking about a cold summer in Greece. A sober and cerebral summer during its most severe economical crisis.

**For press enquiries and visuals please contact:**

**Eleanna Papathanasiadi** 0030 6974 387364  
press@kunsthalleathena.org

**Apostolos Vasilopoulos** 0030 6978 806178  
info@kunsthalleathena.org

OR visit our website **www.kunsthalleathena.org (Press category)**

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