

# KUNSTHALLE ATHENA

**KUNSTHALLE ATHENA-THE BAR**

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

Dates: May 13-17, 2010 Opening hours: 16:00 – 24:00

Place: Kerameikou 28 str. Kerameikos - Metaxourgio, Athens

**Participating Artists:** Aids-3D, Alexandros Georgiou, Penelope Georgiou, Alexandros Mistriotis, This is Amateur, Andreas Angelidakis, Angelo Plessas, Annika Larsson, Christina Dimitriadis, Christos Lialios, Dimitra Vamiali, Forte, Gert & Uwe Tobias, Helga Wretman, Iraklis Renieris, Lo-Fi, Hior Chronik, Jenny Marketou, Joulia Strauss, Juliette Bonneviot, Kostas Tsioukas, Lydia Dambassina, Manolis Baboussis, Marc Bijl, Matthieu Laurette, Olaf Nicolai, Panos Koutras, Pantelis Pantelopoulos, Paul Zografakis, Heinrich Spaeth, Rafael Rozendaal, Robert Pettena, Socratis Socratous, Vvork, Warren Neidich, Ylva Ogland, Yorgos Sapountzis, Yorgos Stamkopoulos.

KUNSTHALLE ATHENA's launching project, THE BAR emerged out of the need to set up an open space for informal dialogue between locally based artists, curators and other experts, the public and visiting practitioners and scholars from around the world. During the 2010 IKT Congress in Athens (13-16 May), when a large number of curators and art world professionals will visit the city, KUNSTHALLE ATHENA-THE BAR will be located in Metaxourgio-Keramikos, the emerging gallery area of downtown Athens. It will operate 24 hours a day, as an alternative, temporary, living space, activated and nurtured by its transient inhabitants. Assuming the form of entertainment, THE BAR hopes to be an experiment on how to stimulate intellectual exchange and facilitate communication beyond productivity quotas and networking obligations, just for the fun of it!

Athens' new, nomadic art institution, KUNSTHALLE ATHENA aspires to acquire concrete form as a welcoming, material and symbolic art venue for three days. For this short period, it will foster an ambience of hospitality for visitors and Athenians alike, who will have the chance to pursue an alternative, more sensually oriented way, of relating to art. During the IKT Congress, KUNSTHALLE ATHENA-THE BAR will be a crossroad where art and theory can be 'practised' live, with no strings attached. Visitors will also have the opportunity to find out about art projects that address Athens in its urban specificity.

Locals and frequent visitors to the city are aware that Athens enjoys a thriving bar culture. In this city, bleak days of hard work transform into serene or raucous, music-filled bar nights, and THE BAR acknowledges the significance of the complex social dynamic that Athens bar culture generates. KUNSTHALLE ATHENA wants to learn from it. But also art encounters beyond the canon require a departure from normative interaction and rules of behavior. Think of Cubism's birth in bars, Warhol's Factory or Diderot writing his Encyclopedia in Café Procope. Looking beyond the 'white box' and yet complementary to it, KUNSTHALLE ATHENA-THE BAR will participate in the ongoing recasting of curatorial activity, from its former understanding as a study into the poetics and politics of display, as part of an open-ended art event.

KUNSTHALLE ATHENA-THE BAR will host a variety of events related both to the city of Athens and the newly launched Kunsthalle: Site and conceptually specific

works, responsive public performances, screenings, as well as Athenian pop archives, an Athens book archive, dj-sets and concerts, selected Athenian blogs, magazine launches, even an artwork-taxi service, will come together with DIY catering activity within the specially designed interior (one of the artworks) of the venue. The content of this event-cum-exhibition - or better, the bar itself- will be the outcome of what can only be described as a collective offer: that of artists, curators, theoreticians, choreographers, friends of KUNSTHALLE ATHENA, and hopefully the public, in order to put ideas into orbit.

Merging everyday life and art can take many different forms. KUNSTHALLE ATHENA-THE BAR prefers the form of a fleeting get-together. This is the moment to say what you think and think what you say, a moment to make friends and a moment to repeat. You are invited to be part of it as you make it happen!  
(Text by Marina Fokidis, Sotiris Bahtetzis and Angela Dimitrakaki)

A series of events starts with the Opening Party with The Breeder Gallery and Amateur Boyz on Thursday 13th May 2010, 20:00

### Creative Sponsors



### Media Sponsors



### Creative Partners



**THE BREEDER**

Loraini Alimantiri Gazonrouge

REBECCA CAMHI



ATHENS  
BIENNIAL