

# KVNSTHALLE ATHENA

## PRESS RELEASE

### *Epitaph*

“Theatro Domatiou”

**Angela Brouskou - Parthenopi Bouzouri**

**With the participation of Gina Politi**

**and MiniMaximum Improvisation:**

Thalia Ioannidou, Despina Tsafou, Gelina Palla, Eirini Christofaki, Alkistis Stefanidou

**Monday, the 9<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, the 10<sup>th</sup> of July 2012, at 21:30**

**Address:** 28, Kerameikou str., Kerameikos - Metaxourgeio, Athens, Greece

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

Kunsthalle Athena presents the lecture - live act - concert about democracy titled *Epitaph*, directed by Angela Brouskou, for two days only, on Monday, the 9<sup>th</sup> and on Tuesday, the 10<sup>th</sup> of July.

*Epitaph* is a performance - action that will be conducted in collaboration with the music band **MiniMaximum Improvisation** and “**Theatro Domatiou**”. Apart from the three main actors and the music band, a group of upcoming actors that will be interacting with the audience and, of course, the visitors will also participate in *Epitaph*. The performance is a particularly timely but also essentially ageless music installation that will be in dialogue with Thucydides’ text *Pericles’ Funeral Oration*, which will be read by Gina Politi, extracts from Cornelius Castoriadis’s texts about democracy and the Greek particularity and a letter that an anonymous female signer left intentionally inside the book *The Problem of Democracy Today* in a central Athenian bookshop, at a time when the country is plunged into economic and social wretchedness.

“Athens as perceived by Thucydides in *Pericles’s Funeral Oration* has still a meaning that speaks to us even today, even if he invented or dreamed of it. The form of government under which the people have the right and the ability to change things, to constitute public space through action”, as Angela Brouskou states. “We are aiming at a reflective context where the concept of democracy is revisited in juxtaposition to citizens’ sentimental discourse as articulated in public spaces today, in cafés, in the streets, in the squares of the city.”

Audience and artists will meet in one of the most abandoned, but at the same time basic, arteries of the heart of the city, Metaxourgeio, the ground zero of tragedy, to talk about the “deads” and “loss”, to sing, drink, lie down on Kunsthalle Athena’s roof terrace, which is a symbolic public space, in order to leave a trace - ours and of those who are slowly dying with us.

The questions that are being raised, deal with the concept of public grief and its expression, the epitaph in its entire conceptual spectrum; death, the end of sexual and family relationships, everyday crime, political and socio-political turbulences, violent displacement of people from their houses and jobs, existential dead-ends, human trafficking or simply the time’s passing, with no return.

**Epitaph** will be a performance open to anyone who wants to participate for personal or collective reasons. A blanket made of human bodies and objects will cover the roof terrace of Kunsthalle Athena's aged building, like a public funeral that carries the grief of a city that wants to articulate a discourse, to assemble its forces, to reaffirm its bonds and relationships and perhaps to regenerate itself.

We are expecting you to join us in a rare opportunity for all of us to express and confess, together and separately, our public or private, unthinkable loss.

The organisation and curation of the performance has been a collaboration of Kunsthalle Athena's curatorial team, Marina Fokidis, Apostolos Vasilopoulos, Eleanna Papathanasiadi, Angeliki Roussou.

Assistant curator: Christina Stamou

Sound: Sonic Playground

**For more information or visual material, or if you wish to book an interview with the participants, please contact us at:**

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Or visit our homepage **[www.kunsthalleathena.org](http://www.kunsthalleathena.org)** (Press category)

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