



PRESS RELEASE

OPEN CALL

Kodra Fresh 2016 : Focus Locus

What is Action Field Kodra?

Action Field Kodra is the visual arts festival organized since 2001 as part of the Municipality of Kalamaria "Para Thin Alos" festival in Thessaloniki. Action Field Kodra aims to introduce to the public new, emerging artists and experimental artistic activity. It is one of the most important artistic events in Greece that attempts each year an approach to contemporary artistic production of paintings, sculpture, photography, video-art, new technologies and art online.

Kodra Fresh 2016: Focus Locus

Kodra Fresh 2016 will focus on the concept of place and on a range of issues associated with it, such as displacement, relocation and settlement. Furthermore, it will encourage artistic projects based on the history of the city of Thessaloniki and that of Kalamaria, as well as on the local historical background of the ex-military camp Kodra; a place which saves prehistoric traces of human inhabitation, a place of refugees' temporary settlement, but also a space of military fielding, exchange population "disinfection" (1923), suffering and indigence. This special "homeland" of Action Field Kodra festival has never been scrutinized in the terms of a historical landmark until now.

How does one define his or her own "homeland"? What are the characteristics of this place? What are the reasons which drive one to leave his or her "home" and when is

one forced to? How does one “get by” in unfamiliar or even hostile territories and how this affects his or her perception of space? What types of collisions are developed in the encounters between local and foreign cultural backgrounds and different identities? How do we conceive “destination”? Is it real or imaginary? How is violence implicated in displacement, moving and settlement processes of individuals or groups of people? What are the traces left from their passage and their stay? What makes one feel attached to a place, or even what makes it “home”? Finally, how is a newly inhabited place shaped after the relocation of people in terms of the urban or the natural landscape and in what ways does the past of the newcomers affect it?

Similar questions have been addressed by artists through all periods of human history, resulting in numerous art pieces and projects. Moreover, historians, sociologists, art historians, cultural theorists and anthropologists have elaborated analytic and critical tools which offer invaluable insight as regards matters associated with space, developing concepts such as globalization, exoticization, mechanisms of neo-colonial control, the impact of technological progress on space and distance perception, center to periphery relations, shifting human geographies, the European citizen identity and the European treatment of non-west cultures.

Therefore, Kodra Fresh 2016: Focus Locus invites final year students and graduates (of up to 2 years) of all Schools of Fine Arts in Greece and abroad to submit their artistic proposals on issues of origin, displacement, inhabitation and settlement as described above, for the exhibition that will take place in September in the building of the Dorms of the former military camp Kodra, including all different mediums used in contemporary art (painting, sculpture, video art, installation, mixed media, net art, performance, etc.).



Using Tumblr (www.bit.ly/KodraFresh2016) as a digital archive of research and documentation, similarly to how we used it in the past two years, we will be mapping part of the activity that has preceded the final exhibition, featuring in this way its development, as well as its artistic and theoretical origins.

*Anthi Argyriou & Panagis Koutsokostas
Main Curators / Coordinators of Action Field Kodra visual arts festival*

Note that for the submission of your proposal you will need:

- 1). A valid email account
- 2). A short bio
- 3). You can propose from 1 to 3 artworks and you can submit minimum of 3 images for each artwork (optional up to 5). Each filesize should not exceed 2MB.
- 4). For video submissions you should upload to Vimeo (<https://vimeo.com/join>) or Dropbox (sample max. 5', <https://www.dropbox.com/login>) and paste the link inside the provided text box. Creator name and title in the submission must match the ones in the link.
- 5). All the required files must be named in the following way: artist name_artwork tittle_picture number.

For example:

*The first picture of the artwork Retrogenesis of the artist Stavros Chatziioannidis will be named :
StavrosChatziioannidis_Retrogenesis_01.jpg*

Accordingly for portoflio and cv:

StavrosChatziioannidis_portfolio.pdf & StavrosChatziioannidis_cv.doc

Finally, a portfolio of your work is optional and it will be used for the curators' archive.

For any further questions please contact: info@actionfieldkodra.gr.

No telephone inquiries will be answered.

[Submission of proposals](#)

Submission deadline: June 24, 2016

Contact info :

<http://www.actionfieldkodra.gr>

Action Field Kodra: Komnion 60, Kalamaria 55 132, Greece

Tel.. +30 231 3314572

e-mail: info@actionfieldkodra.gr

