

INTERDISCIPLINARY EXCHANGE THESSALONIKI - LEIPZIG 2021

Jury of specialists selects Sam Albatros and Evangelia Basdekis as Greek artists-in-residence for HALLE 14. Call for proposals for Leipzig-based authors and artists has begun.

In 2021 the fourth interdisciplinary exchange program of HALLE 14 and the literary magazine Edit in cooperation with the Goethe-Institut Thessaloniki will take place. As in the past, this year offers two authors and two artists the opportunity to explore the two cities and make them the basis of new projects. While Leipzig-based authors and artists can still apply to the Goethe-Institut Thessaloniki until May 9, the awardees from Greece have already been determined.

A three-member jury of specialists, consisting of **Emrah Gökdemir** (artist), **Dr. Michaela Prinzinger** (translator, Diablog.eu) and **Dr. Stefan Weppelmann** (Director, Museum of Fine Arts Leipzig) made their selection from 23 applications. They chose Sam Albatros and Evangelia Basdekis. The awardees captivated the jury with their critical concepts, which combine their artistic practices with action and establish interrelations between the two partner cities in an exciting way.

Evangelia Basdekis lives in Athens and London and has presented her performances such as "Art Tama" and "I Trust You" at numerous festivals and in public spaces worldwide, including Venice, London, Thessaloniki and Vienna. Solo exhibitions with her works have been shown by galleries in various major European cities. Basdekis has founded performance collectives such as CARTel Group (2005) and Per Art Archives (2018) and curated presentations by other international performance artists. As part of her residency, the artist plans to track down local traces and memories of historic amusement parks in the twin cities of Leipzig and Thessaloniki.

Sam Albatros' life journey has included stops in Thessaloniki, Paris, Cambridge, Washington D.C. and London. Originally a poet, Sam has published poems and poetry translations in Greek and English literary magazines since 2012. As Sam

Albatros (an alter ego created in 2017) they have expanded into mixed-media performances both online and offline, in locations including Greece, Cyprus, United Kingdom and Germany. Sam's debut novel "Faulty Boy" will be published in 2021, and their Greek translation of Richard Siken's poetry collection "Crush" is expected in 2022. Since 2018 Sam runs the website queerpoets.com, translating non-conventional and queer poems into Greek. For Leipzig, Sam is planning a project on queer refugees, focusing on the parallels between fleeing from war and fleeing from home as a queer individual.

The current exhibition "BACK & FORTH" at HALLE 14 shows how varied the themes and works resulting from the residency program can be. Here, the Leipzig awardees from 2019, Lucia Graf and Geeske Janßen, together with Ronny Bulik, present the results of their stay in Thessaloniki.

This exchange program was established in 2018 and it is run in cooperation with the Goethe-Institut Thessaloniki, the literary magazine Edit and the art centre HALLE 14. It is supported by the Office for International Affairs of the City of Leipzig.

FACTS:

Program: Interdisciplinary exchange Thessaloniki - Leipzig 2021 | Open call for artists and authors living in Leipzig

Application deadline : May 9, 2021, 11:59 pm (CET)

Dates of residencies in Thessaloniki: 1. September - 30. November 2021

Contact: Aris Kalogiros (Goethe-Institut Thessaloniki), aris.kalogiros@goethe.de, +30 2310 889611.

Application form: www.goethe-institut.de

EXHIBITION OF 2019 AWARDEES FROM LEIPZIG

Exhibition: BACK & FORTH

Dates: extended until May 16, 2021

Artists: Lucia Graf, Geeske Janßen, Ronny Bulik

Location: HALLE 14 — Zentrum für zeitgenössische Kunst

Address: Leipziger Baumwollspinnerei, Spinnereistr. 7, 04179 Leipzig

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<https://www.halle14.org/info/english-information.html>

PRESSEBILDER

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www.halle14.org/presse/pressebilder



Titel: Sam Albatros: "Trigger mich, du Identitätsmonster" at ACUD MACHT NEU (Berlin, DE), 2020
Fotocredits: Mirko Lux



Titel: Evangelia Basdekis' performance "Art Tama" in Athens (GR)
Fotocredits: Tsakiris
Dateiformat: .jpg

HALLE 14

Centre for Contemporary Arts Leipzig

Since 2002, the non-profit art center HALLE 14 has been a space for the presentation of, reflection on and communication about contemporary art. Its commitment to contemporary art serves the public through international group exhibitions, regular events, an art library, an art education program and a residency program for international artists. The art center is located in the heart of the Leipzig Baumwollspinnerei, a remarkable cosmos of contemporary art and culture, consisting of a dozen art galleries, 150 artist studios, print shops, workshops, creative offices, residency programs, a cinema, a theater and much more. Tours of the SpinnereiGalerien attract more than 45,000 guests every year.



HALLE 14 - Zentrum für zeitgenössische Kunst
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