



Good Night, and Good Luck.

September 28 to November 30th 2016
Opening on Wednesday, September 28, 6.00 pm

The School for Curatorial Studies Venice, The Cool Couple and A plus A gallery are pleased to announce the exhibition “Good Night, and Good Luck.”

In October 1940, in a time when England was under German bomb attacks, Princess Elizabeth ended her first broadcast speech by saying “Good night and good luck to you all”. This farewell quote was a popular greeting among English citizens, in a period of time in which seeing each other the next morning was uncertain.

During the 1950’s, when the United States were dominated by the anti-communism policies of senator McCarthy, the war reporter Edward Murrow adopted this quote as a catchphrase to end his TV transmissions. In 2005, George Clooney used the same phrase to title a film dedicated to Murrow’s story. By portraying the reporter’s political battles, the movie brought to light not only his initiatives to reveal the obscure aspects of McCarthyism, but also his concerns about the use of television as a mere means of entertainment.

The exhibition “Good night, and Good Luck” recalls Murrow’s quote six decades later – in a historical time in which alienation and freedom of expression have once again become subjects of debate. In a period when digital connectivity and image circulation turned out to assume a central place in our societies, it addresses the hidden processes that undergo what is often “given to be seen” within the contemporary conflicts. It is a matter of questioning the invisible aspects that rule this increasingly visual reality, and by doing so, groping paths that could possibly allow us to leave the condition of lethargic spectators to become real political actors.

In a world in which images of progress, happiness and well-being are continuously created to disguise the real condition of economical, social and environmental unsustainability, the exhibition undertakes the potentialities of art in bringing to the gaze other possible visions and perspectives. Faced with the absence of any easy alternative that could guarantee a sustainable and promising future, it is an attempt to propose an ironical approach for a world that turns to be ironic for itself.

The show investigates how image can possibly emerge as a tool for critical action rather than as a representational device used to reaffirm given structures. With works that converge aesthetic and politics, within historical and contemporary contexts, it is an invitation to think about the power of the image to manipulate and to distort, but also about its potentialities to reveal and to resist.



CURATORS

- Aderonke Akinyele (Nigeria)
Visual Artist, MA in Media and Creative Enterprise.
- Paola Aluzzi (Mexico)
Business Administrator, PG Art History and Art Dealer.
- Chiara Argentino (Italy)
Art Historian, MA in Curatorial Practices
- Paula Bruzzi (Brazil)
Architect, MA in Architecture and Urbanism.
- Maria de Los Angeles Donoso (Chili)
Art Historian
- Nelly Fili (Greece)
Archaeologist, Museologist, MA Museum and Gallery Management
- Livia Zaffalon (Brazil)§Architect, MA Architecture and Urbanism.
- Sheila Zago (Brazil)
MA Museum and Gallery Practices.

ARTISTS

Bill Balaskas

Born in 1983, Thessaloniki, Greece. He lives and works in London. The main ideas encountered in his practice are irony, humour and the interrogation of spectacle, through the fuse of which he explores subjects with a strong political character. "This is a Public pace", 2008-2009, Digital Video, 0' 17" (Loop-play). Courtesy of the artist and Kalfayan Galleries, Athens-Thessaloniki.

Discipula

Founded in 2013 by MFG Paltrinieri, Mirko Smerdel and Tommaso Tanini, Milano, Italy. It is a collective operating in the field of contemporary visual research focused on the exploration of the role and uses of images in the contemporary mediascape. "Efficacy Testing Stream". MFG Paltrinieri / Mirko Smerdel / Tommaso Tanini (2015)

Giuseppe Abate

Born in 1987, Bari, Italy.

He will produce a sitespecific work that manages to be an ironic and evocative false representation of reality in order to involve the participation of the viewer without being merely didactic. "Zapping", 2016, book . "Ogni uomo convive con la bambina che è stato", 2015, embroidery.

Jakup Ferri

Born in 1981, Pristina.

From the situation of its natal Pristina and the western art world, invisibility and isolation are two of the main ideas that influenced the content and appearance of his work. "An Artist who can not speak English is no Artist", 2003, Video. Courtesy of the artist and andriessse eyck galerie, Amsterdam, Holland.



Marco Ceroni

Born in 1987, Forlì, Italy. In Marco Ceroni's work there are fragments of manipulated reality with traces of truth that conforms a potential image of a parallel and very different present. He is creating discontinuity by amplifying contradictions and composing other figures by adding hybridation after hybridation in order to create a rough and a provisional reality. "Denti d'oro" 2016 Golden car rim sculpture. "Bling Bling", 2016, picture.

Stefano Serretta

Born in 1987, Genova, Italy. He explores the belief systems of the contemporary society through operations of analytics voyeurism. "Bam", 2016, intervention on post stamp (Afghanistan, 1951). "Landscape", 2015, Offset press on c-print. "Friends", 2016, different kinds of bills

Stefan Baltensperger And David Siefert

Collaborative since 2007, Zurich, Switzerland.

Baltensperger + Siefert's artistic practice reflects critically upon social, cultural and political issues. By immersing themselves in diverse systems, they aim to expose and manipulate them.

"Imaginary landscapes", collage, 2015

"Desire Lines", chalk on paper, 2013/14

The Cool Couple

Artist duo composed by Niccolò Benetton and Simone Santilli, Italy. Their work focuses on the daily relationships people have with various forms of collective representations, in an attempt to highlight the friction points in contemporary imagery.

"Meditation room", 2016, site specific installation

The School For Curatorial Studies Venice

Among the principal activities of the A plus A gallery is the The School for Curatorial Studies Venice, founded by Aurora Fonda in 2004 with the purpose of creating an open laboratory for the expression of creativity in the field of visual arts and the professions related to contemporary art. The Course in "Curatorial Practices and Contemporary Arts", now in its 24th Italian edition and the second edition of the International Summer School, is articulated on both a practical and theoretical level towards an experimental approach, culminating in a final event organized by the participating students. The course is an ambitious and challenging project that aims to offer a vision of the complex world of contemporary art and offers a constructive contribution through the works produced by the School and its students.

The exhibition is produced with the support of Pixartprinting.
www.pixartprinting.it

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