

Fusion Cuisine

JANINE ANTONI (Bahamas)	ELIZA JACKSON (USA)
COSIMA VON BONIN (Germany)	LIZA LOU (USA)
MONICA BONVICINI (Italy)	ELAHE MASSUMI (Iran)
TANIA BRUGUERA (Cuba)	DESPINA MEIMAROGLOU (Greece)
LEE BUL (S. Korea)	CATHERINE OPIE (USA)
PATTY CHANG (USA)	MARIA PAPADIMITRIOU (Greece)
CAMILLA DAHL (Norway / Germany)	KIKI SEROR (France / USA)
TRACEY EMIN (Great Britain)	LINA THEODOROU (Greece)
SYLVIE FLEURY (Switzerland)	FATIMAH TUGGAR (Nigeria)
JITKA HANZLOVA (Czech Republic)	LISA YUSKAVAGE (USA)
HILARY HARKNESS (USA)	

20 June – 30 October 2002

Curator: Katerina Gregos

The Deste Foundation's Centre for Contemporary Art presents *Fusion Cuisine*, an exhibition featuring the work of both emerging as well as established contemporary women artists from around the world.

Fusion Cuisine aims to create a platform for discussing current developments in women's art practice and to pinpoint the heterogeneity of art being produced by women today. One of the concerns underlying the exhibition is the question of what it means to make art in this post-feminist era that acknowledges the impossibility of a universal and singular female perspective. Post-feminism, contrary to certain people's beliefs, does not connote an end to the feminist debate; rather it accepts the differences between women and within feminism itself. It continues feminism's articulation of a wide range of positions and spheres of questioning without adopting an essentialist stance. *Fusion Cuisine* attempts to dispel some of the myths and stereotypes surrounding women's art practice, deconstruct feminist clichés, disrupt stereotypical images of womanhood and established notions of what constitutes 'femininity'. It offers a non-dogmatic and non-didactic glimpse into the diverse and polymorphous nature of contemporary art being made by women today without being categorical in trying to define the works in question. Taking an all-encompassing look into women's art practice with a focus on the diversification of current trends, it attests to the fact that, today, there is no category or identifiable kind of 'women's art', just as there is no one single way of being a woman. The exhibition aims to demonstrate that while there may be certain affinities with feminist strategies and practices, the artists in it cannot be grouped into one unifying category under the banner of feminism.

Though the work in the exhibition addresses disparate concerns, there is also an underlying awareness of the female condition. It consists of many styles, individual expressions and adopts multiple positions, viewpoints and lifestyle options. It presents a varied cross section of art being made by different women from different cultures and backgrounds. History, memory, politics, questions of gender and identity, religion and culture are all areas that are explored. There is a distinct interest in exploring the realm of the social but also one's self-image, as well as the desire to communicate real life issues, whether public or private. Many of the artists seem to have assimilated feminism's legacy of amalgamation of the aesthetic self and the social self and support the notion that it is impossible to engage in art without referencing the social structures that it arises out of.

The exhibition includes works in all media such as installation, video, painting, drawing, photography and performance. Patty Chang and Tania Bruguera will present live performances of their work in Athens.

A bilingual (Greek – English), colour catalogue will be published with texts by Jo Anna Isaak,

Rosa Martinez, Amanda Michalopoulou, Lynne Tillman, Maria Skamaga and Katerina Gregos.

Sponsor: Laiki Bank

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For more information and photographic material please contact Maria Skamaga at +3 010 6729460

OPENING HOURS:

Monday – Friday: 12.00 – 20.00

Saturday: 12.00 – 16.00

Sunday: Closed