



PRESS RELEASE

### 3rd DESTE PRIZE

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**ORGANISATION COMMITTEE:** Dakis Joannou, President Deste Foundation Orestis Domanis, Publisher – Director Design and Art in Greece & Architecture in Greece Yorghos Tzirtzilakis, Architect Ileana Tounta, Director, Ileana Tounta Centre for Contemporary Art Katerina Gregos, Curator & Critic

The Deste Prize for contemporary Greek art was launched in 1999 with the aim of supporting and promoting developments in contemporary Greek art. The Prize, which is awarded every two years to a Greek artist whose work has made a significant contribution to artistic discourse in Greece, intends to encourage and reinforce the spirit of innovation in contemporary art.

NIKOS ALEXIOU  
APOSTOLOS GEORGIOU  
DIMITRIS KOZARIS  
NIKOS NAVRIDIS  
MARIA PAPADIMITRIOU  
NIKOS TRANOS

The **Selection Committee** for the 2003 Deste Prize comprised of:  
**Katerina Koskinas**, Curator, the J. F. Kostopoulos Foundation  
**Constantine Papageorgiou**, Collector  
**Rena Papaspyrou**, Painter, Professor, The Athens School of Fine Arts  
**Yorghos Tzirtzilakis**, Architect  
**Marina Fokides**, Independent Curator, Art Critic

The Selection Committee deemed the following areas to be of particular interest:

- The relation of socio-cultural identity to global issues and current international realities.
- The examination of contemporary local reality and specificity.
- The question of personal identity and private narratives.

According to the Selection Committee's announcement the six shortlisted artists for this year's Prize are:

- Nikos Alexiou**: for his consistent research which combines a contemporary visual language with a hidden tradition thus arriving at a highly personal idiom.
- Apostolos Georgiou**: for his personal, idiosyncratic use of the language of painting.
- Dimitris Kozaris**: for his research into the conflicting characteristics of the media of sculpture and video.
- Nikos Navridis**: for his study of human behaviour and of the notions that define and complement it.
- Maria Papadimitriou**: for her ability to instigate collaborative projects and collective activities that highlight the interconnection between art and social reality.
- Nikos Tranos**: for his sculptural use of everyday, personal experience.

The **Jury** for the 2003 Deste Prize consists of:  
**Dakis Joannou**, President, Deste Foundation  
**Tuula Arkio**, Director, Finnish National Galleries  
**Maurizio Cattelan**, Artist  
**Massimiliano Gioni**, Curator and Artistic Director, The Nicola Trussardi Foundation, Milan  
**Lars Nittve**, Director, Moderna Museet, Stockholm

The Deste Prize exhibition will open to the public on **Wednesday, 28th May** and run until **1st November 2003**.



Sponsored by ALPHA Television Network

On the occasion of ALPHA Television Network generously offering to exclusively sponsor the 3rd Deste Prize, Managing Director, Mr. George Psarass, stated that an active support of various cultural events and a continual reinforcement of local artistic creation constitute fundamental concerns of the network's overall policy. The Deste Prize is an important institution in the context of the Greek contemporary art scene and by sponsoring it ALPHA dynamically encourages Greek artists and helps shape the country's contemporary cultural identity.

