



Athens, January 2009

ANNOUNCEMENT

SHORTLISTED ARTISTS FOR THE DESTE PRIZE 2009 THE DESTE PRIZE AT THE MUSEUM OF CYCLADIC ART

The DESTE Foundation is happy to announce the names of the shortlisted artists for the **6th Deste Prize**.

On **Thursday, 22nd January 2008**, the **DESTE Prize 2009 Selection Committee** convened, examined all submitted portfolios, discussed in detail the work of the thirty (30) nominated artists and shortlisted the following six (6) on the basis of criteria set forth in this year's edition of the prize:

Athanasios Argianas, for his consistent approach of unorthodox, metaphysical systems by means of sculpture and music.

Eirene Efstathiou, for her idiosyncratic use of the medium of painting in deconstructing both personal history and the ideology of the spectacle.

Haris Epaminonda, for her exploration of the power of the image as memory, and as the foremost relic of pop culture, through a combination of video and collage.

Rallou Panagiotou, for her innovative approach of sculpture, by means of which she attempts to speak of the human condition.

Yorgos Sapountzis, for his treatment of the notion of the public monument and his appropriation of urban space through "fragile" installations, performance and collaborative projects (participatory action).

Vangelis Vlahos, for his systematic work on the notion of the archive as a mediated record of sociopolitical reality.

The Selection Committee comprises: **Sandra Marinopoulou** – Selection Committee Coordinator and President of the N. P. Goulandris Foundation; **Xenia Kalpaktsoglou** – Curator, Co-director of the Athens Biennial, **Alexandra Koroxenidi** – Art Historian, Regular Contributor to *Kathimerini* newspaper (English edition), *Highlights* magazine; **Sotiris Bachtsetzis** – Curator, Art Historian; **Stefanos Tsivopoulos** – Visual Artist (Deste Prize 2005 shortlist).

The DESTE Prize Jury comprises: **Dakis Joannou** – President, The Deste Foundation; **Lisa Phillips** – Director, New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York; **Patrizia Sandretto Re Rebaudengo** – President, Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Per L' Arte, Turin; **Udo Kittelmann** – Director, Nationalgalerie, Berlin; **Jeffrey Deitch** - Deitch Projects, New York; **Thomas Struth** – Artist.

The DESTE Prize was established in 1999 as part of the Foundation's policy of supporting and promoting contemporary art in Greece and is awarded every two years to a Greek artist living in Greece or abroad.

This year, the DESTE Foundation will collaborate with the **Museum of Cycladic Art** that is to host the exhibition of works by the six (6) shortlisted artists for the DESTE Prize 2009. This collaboration is part of an initiative taken by the Museum of Cycladic Art, whose project "Young Views" aims at launching dialogue with a younger generation, at keeping the public up to date on contemporary art production and at ensuring the dynamic presence of a space for the exchange of ideas.

The DESTE Prize 2009 Exhibition is scheduled to open on **Thursday, 14th May 2009**, while the Prize will be presented on **Monday, 14th September 2009**.

This announcement will soon be followed by a detailed Press Release.

** For more information, please contact the DESTE Foundation:*

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