



PRESS RELEASE

Nikos Leontopoulos

X ARCHEIA

4 June – 19 July 2024

Ikastikos Kiklos DL presents on Tuesday 4 June 2024 the solo photography exhibition of Nikos Leontopoulos titled « X APXEIA ».

A ballad for Exarchia

My friends are black birds

that seesaw on the roofs of dilapidated houses

Exarchia Patisia Metaxourgio Mets.

They do whatever it takes.

They sell cookbooks and encyclopedias door to door

they build roads and unite deserts...

Katerina Gogou, *My friends are black birds* (excerpt)

Graffiti is one of the few tools you have if you have almost nothing. And even if you don't come up with a picture to cure world poverty you can make someone smile while they're having a piss.

Banksy, *Banging Your Head Against a Brick Wall*



The new series of works by Nikos Leontopoulos entitled "X APXEIA", in addition to the blatant transgressive beauty that it masterfully reveals, simultaneously ignites a new way of looking at the city's brave flowers and wall-mounted fireworks.

Photographing with passion, delivering a concrete historical record and aesthetic search, Leontopoulos, in continuation of his unforgettable "Lipasmata", traces and reintroduces a familiar urban Athenian landscape that weaves and unravels silently, that sometimes releases a dying breath and sometimes pulsates, that balances between the dystopia and phantasmagoria.

Collapsing and restored vandalized neoclassical buildings, mid-war tenements with noble entrances and long-lost decorative elements, lacy commercial canopies and twisting service stairs gradually fade in front of the lens, giving place, texture and sound to the somber bursts and bonfires of colour, to the adventurous meandering labyrinths and the fascinating single strokes of shapes that, like raging ivy, stubbornly embrace history, canceling its thought memory with no bang. Restarting her from scratch with a whimper.

Iris Kritikou

Archaeologist and Art Historian (excerpt)

Exhibition opening: Tuesday 4 June 2024 from 19:30 until 22:00

Duration: 4 June– 19 July 2024

Opening hours: Monday closed
Wednesday - Saturday 11:00 - 16:00
Tuesday - Thursday - Friday 11:00 - 14:30 / 17:30 - 20:30

Admission to the exhibition is free.