

Exhibition of Canadian Artists "Open Horizons" in Tinos

Voreini Newspaper

Greece

2017-07-24

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The Canadian Embassy in Athens celebrates the 150th anniversary of the Canadian Confederation and 75 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Canada and Greece with the important exhibition of modern art "Open Horizons" at the Cultural Foundation of Tinos , 1-20 August 2017.

A great show to celebrate two anniversary anniversaries.

INFORMATION

Open Horizons, an Exhibition

Location: Foundation of Tinian Culture, Tinos, Greece

Duration: August 1-20, 2017

Opening: 1 August, 2017 at 20.00 (presence of Canadian artists)

Participating Artists: Ron Moppett, Allyson Glenn and Colleen Heslin

Curator: Dr. Caterina Pizania

The purpose of Open Horizons is to present to Greek audiences the work of three internationally acclaimed Canadian artists: Ron Moppett, Allyson Glenn and Colleen Heslin.

All three artists are at the forefront of the Canadian art community. They go beyond the prescribed limits and hierarchies of art, which is evident in how the audience responds to their award-winning visual practices. In artfully innovative ways, they refer to the vastness of the nature of the Canadian landscape and illustrate it. They prefer to cover the canvas, sometimes expanding the works on the floor, creating artistic installations that tell stories of a world in liquidity - projects that can resist and confront the challenges of the Aegean Sea - the endless blue Horizon, plenty of light, and above all, the myriad stories that have been buried in the depths and washed out of its shores.



From top left, clockwise: Ron Moppett, Colleen Heslin and Allyson Glenn

HISTORY

Both Canada and Greece became nations during the nineteenth century. Both countries recovered from their historical past, the "heroic" element in their people and their national landscapes. Both introduced concepts of art and its institutions from Western Europe. In both countries, painting and sculpture have contributed widely to shaping the modern idea of independence, and since the nineteenth century, both countries have had parallel experiences in understanding, and solving the issue of Canadianism and respectively, "Hellenicity" of art and artists. In the context of the 2017 celebrations, it is counterproductive to continue to look for what is purely heroic and national; this would strengthen the world's foreclosure practices that we are witnessing every day. Practices that have reached us in the social, political and economic chaos that has affected everyday life throughout the world over the last decade. At the present historic juncture, art exploring current themes through personal stories can become the common ground, the foundation for productive cultural exchanges between Canadian artists and Greek art audiences.

TINOS

Tinos is the island that offered to Greece its "fathers" in painting and sculpture. Its history is traceable to Neolithic times, and has been associated with Poseidon, the god of the sea, and Aeolus, the god of the winds, and has also been associated with Demeter and Dionysus. The Venetians invaded Tinos in 1207, and since then, Tinos has produced marble craftsmen who have worked professionally for centuries in Western Europe in the field of public building architecture. With this wealth and access abroad, Tinian painters and sculptors played an important role as teachers in Munich, Germany, Paris and finally in Greece, after its emancipation by the Ottomans. Here, they played an important role in the establishment of the Athens School of Fine Arts. Among the famous Tinian artists are the painters Nikolaos Gyzis and Nikiforos Lytras and sculptor Giannoulis Halepas. The Tinos Archaeological Museum, the Museum of Marble Craft (which exhibits works of Tinian artists only) and the Kostas Tsoklis Museum are located in Tinos.

The Cultural Foundation of Tinos was founded (2002) to promote Tinian artists. It houses the works of Giannoulis Chalepas (permanent collection), as well as a gallery hosting domestic and international traveling exhibitions, especially during the summer, during which Tinos is the meeting point of people belonging to the spiritual leadership of Greece. Tinos has been the favorite vacation spot of the philosopher Cornelius Castoriadis and the writer Vassilis Alexakis, to name just two of the famous intellectuals and artists who prefer Tinos as a summer destination. In August, the Tinos Culture Foundation organizes the Tinos Jazz Festival and the Tinos World Music Festival (Tinos World Music Festival).