



**Producing localities:  
Cultural Endeavours, towards a Cypriot paradigm.  
2 & 3 January 2015  
by XORKO Collaborative Art Movement  
at ARTos Foundation**

Ever since the birth of this movement we have found ourselves in a peculiar state of constant return, a recurring process that emerges almost subconsciously in the organizational procedures and the symbiosis of the members of XORKO. Such is the predicament we find ourselves in. From the midst of repetition, to the groundings of difference; from the establishment of an elusive perimeter of familiarity as the axis on which we direct our most perplexing inquiries, to the de-familiarization, and re-conceptualization of the same axis in new formations and meanings. Such is the scope of this set of events to which we address our invitation. Open invitations to examine our relationship with the object, which we choose to analyse, facilitate and produce as a collective movement. Namely, Cypriot culture, grasped through the proximal explorations of the socio-historical dimensions of doing Cyprus and Cypriot-ness. As such from the depictions of Cypriot cultural localities as they are found in the selected works, which we choose to present to the public, and through the production of localities as they emerge from the work which XORKO has facilitated and produced in the past months; our aim for these versatile instances, is the attainment of a subtle regrouping that we hope to make manifest in the form of a reconstructive anatomy, which can enable us to conceive of a Cypriot paradigm; one that we hope to derive through the methodical traces of subjugated moments of Cypriot culture and their relation to the dominant discourses and backgrounds of hegemonic structures in different historical periods.

**Program:**

**Friday 02/01/2015**

**16:30-17:00 Lina Protopapa - Presentation of Satura.**

Satura is a photographic book created by the inhabitants of Nicosia who were involved in the documentation of their daily lives. The book revolves around the rediscovery and the sharing of their identities as seen through their own eyes. Published by YARD PRESS (<http://www.yardpress.it/>).

**17:30-19:00: Nicos Philippou- 'Coffee House Embellishments'.**

Nicos Philippou is a photographer, visual ethnographer and author of the books Off the Map and Coffee House Embellishments. He is currently lecturing at the Communications



Department of the University of Nicosia and is working towards his PhD at the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of Bristol, (UK). His research interests include the study of modes of photographic representations of Cyprus, the coffee-house, the working classes and vernacular aesthetics and culture.

**19:30-20:20 XORKO-CD Compilation Release.**

"Spectrum" is the outcome of our first open call for music. It's a 12 track release of various local artists. Tomash Ghz, • Atea •, RAW SILVER, The Black Post Project, Insano, Stelios Ilchouk, Natalie Yakshe, Lebensmude and Pain + Misery. The release was assembled and visualized by Nico Stephou and will be accompanied by a special performance by the band "The Black Post Project".

**Saturday (03/01/2015)**

**16:30-17:00 XORKO- Poetry and Photography Compilation Release.**

The first volume of poems and photographs was compiled as a result of Xorko's first open call in these mediums. It's a 24 Page A5 booklet assembled and edited by the collective after the completion of our inaugural open call for poems and photographs created by locals. The first volume features 22 pieces, 11 photographs and 11 poems. The order of the pieces was based on chance, using the "flip the coin" method. The release of the booklets will be accompanied by a presentation and talk on Xorko and the Scope of the movement by members of the collective.

**17:30-19:00: Yiannis E. Ioannou: 'The poets of dissent: The 1974 generation in Cyprus' (Η Ποιητική Γενιά του 1974, Η Γενεαλογία της αμφισβήτησης).**

The study focuses on the production of poetry in the period 1974-91 and attempts to trace the birth of a certain contestation and the formation of antagonism against the dominant ideological and aesthetic norms of Cypriot culture. Intending to explore and examine Cypriot poetry and trace articles and segments of refutation, protest, provocation and challenge and to form an understanding of how this form of poetry, this specific generation of poets in fact constitute a thematic and aesthetic schism in relation to the normative production of Cypriot poetry. Yiannis E. Ioannou is a professor of French and comparative literature. His interests include French and Greek Literature, the poetry of Odysseas Elytis and its relationship with French 19th and 20th century literature and culture, contemporary Cypriot literature, and political culture.

**19:30-21:30 Screening 'Evaporating Borders' and discussion:**

An essay in five parts, "Evaporating Borders offers a series of vignettes, poetically guided by the filmmaker's curious eye and personal reflections. Through the people she encounters along the way, the film dissects the experience of asylum seekers in Cyprus : A PLO activist and exile from Iraq is denied asylum within 15 minutes; neo-nazi fundamentalists roam the



streets in an attack on Muslim migrants; activists and academics organise an antifascist rally and clash with the neo-nazis; 195 migrants drown in the Mediterranean. Originally from Yugoslavia and an immigrant to Cyprus, Iva Radivojevic investigates the effects of large-scale immigration on the sense of national identity in one of the easiest ports of entry into Fortress Europe. Poetically photographed and rendered, the film passionately weaves the themes of migration, tolerance, identity and belonging.”

Producer: Leandros Savvides: a social and political scientist and activist, currently a PhD candidate at the University of Leicester, UK. He was born in Nicosia and holds a degree in Sociology/International Politics from the University of Manchester Metropolitan, UK and an MA in Social and Political Thought from the University of Sussex, UK. At the time of filming *Evaporating Borders*, due to his specialisation in the field of migration and critical race theory, he was working at KISA – Action for Equality, Support, Antiracism an activist NGO organisation that supports migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and victims of trafficking, whilst also coordinating its Social Center. He conducted extensive research in precarity of migrant labour, detention practices and racist discourse analysis during his work at KISA.

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