

DIO HORIA GALLERY
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ART ATHINA 2025

MIRA DANCY, DORA ECONOMOU, PETROS EFSTHADIADIS, ZOI GAITANIDOU, ELIAS KAFOUROS, KATELYN LEDFORD, IOANNA PANTAZOPOULOU, SELMA PARLOUR, DIAMANTIS SOTIROPOULOS, THE CALLAS & MARINA VELISIOTI.

BOOTH #L6

For Art Athina 2025, Dio Horia Gallery presents a group of eleven artists from Greece and abroad, representing a dynamic generation of creators at mature stages of their artistic careers. Working across diverse media—painting, sculpture, weaving, video, sound, and installation—they address issues of identity, collective and individual memory, power, gender, society, and the very history of the image. A common thread is their insistence on handmade processes and their desire to forge new narrative and aesthetic frameworks where the local speaks to the international, and the personal engages with the collective.

Short Bios:

— **Dora Economou** (b. 1974, Athens) lives and works in Athens. She studied painting at the Athens School of Fine Arts and completed an MFA in sculpture at Pratt Institute in New York. Her practice is characterized by the use of industrial, everyday, and often humble materials—such as cardboard, fabric, or plastic—which she reshapes through handmade techniques into sculptural ensembles with a strong sense of physicality and materiality. In her works, the tension between the handmade and the standardized, authenticity and reproduction, becomes a field for commentary on the value of labor, mass culture, and the very notion of the art object. Economou often incorporates references to architecture and design, creating sculptures that balance between functional and useless, monumental and ephemeral. Her works have been shown at institutions including the Cranbrook Art Museum (USA), Onassis Foundation, DESTE Foundation, and the National Museum of Contemporary Art (EMST, Athens). She participated in the Athens Biennale in 2009 and 2011. Over her career, she has developed a personal lexicon of materials and forms that recur in new variations, making her work recognizable yet always open to experimentation and evolution.

— **Petros Efsthadiadis** (b. 1980, Liparo, Pella) lives and works in Greece. He studied photography at the University of the Creative Arts, Farnham, UK. His practice combines photography with a pronounced sculptural dimension: he creates ephemeral constructions from humble industrial and natural materials collected in his village, which he then photographs before dismantling. Although simple in conception, his images are complex in structure and composition, blending the familiar with the paradoxical, the banal with the poetic, transforming the rural landscape of Central Macedonia into a stage for imaginary narratives. His work, infused with subtle humor, critiques social and cultural stereotypes while maintaining a poetic quality rooted in everyday life. He has held solo exhibitions at Arsenal Metz (France), Thessaloniki Photo Biennale, Galerie Clémentine de la Ferrière (Paris), and Foto Forum (Bolzano). He has participated in major group exhibitions including The Equilibrists (New Museum & DESTE Foundation, Benaki Museum), Über Leben am Land (Kunst Haus Wien), and How Long Is Now (Israel

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Museum, Jerusalem). His works are in public and private collections such as the Israel Museum, MoMUS Thessaloniki, the HSBC corporate collection, the Serlachius Museum (Finland), and the Dakis Joannou Collection. Through his commitment to the ephemeral and the handmade, Efsthadiadis has developed a unique artistic language bridging documentary and theatricality, construction and image.

— **Zoe Gaitanidou** (b. 1981, Athens) lives and works in Athens. She studied at the School of Fine Arts in Thessaloniki and graduated from the Athens School of Fine Arts in 2005. Her practice combines the materiality of embroidery with drawing and pastel on canvas, creating dense surfaces where abstract figures, botanical motifs, and tropical landscapes form ethnographic and mythological universes. Her figures often appear in states of dissolution and reconstitution, acquiring animal features, allegories of human adaptation in conditions of fear, uncertainty, and constant transformation. Through the handmade process of embroidery, Gaitanidou explores themes of survival, collective experience, and the psychological state of contemporary humanity. She has participated in important exhibitions such as *The Equilibrists* (New Museum, DESTE Foundation, Benaki Museum) and the 2nd Athens Biennale (Heaven). In 2009, she was selected by the curatorial department of the New Museum for the Younger Than Jesus list, presented in a Phaidon publication highlighting the next generation of international artists. Her work has also been shown at the National Museum of Contemporary Art (EMST), the Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art, and international platforms such as *Cut & Paste* (Espai Cultural Caja Madrid, Barcelona) and *Delfina* Foundation programs in London. With her distinctive technique, uniting textile traditions with contemporary abstraction, Gaitanidou creates images that shift between painting, drawing, and object, positioning her work uniquely within both Greek and international contemporary art.

— **Elias Kafouros** (b. 1978, Athens) lives and works in Athens. He studied painting at the Athens School of Fine Arts and animation at the School of Visual Arts in New York. His practice is marked by oversaturated, multilayered compositions, which he describes as “constructions,” drawing inspiration from cinema, internet culture, Renaissance painting, and Buddhist mandalas. His works, recalling medieval illuminated manuscripts and the paintings of Bruegel, comment on the excess of images and information in the digital age, inviting the viewer to slow, meditative observation. He has held solo exhibitions at Dyo Choria (Athens, Mykonos), Francoise Heitsch Gallery (Munich), AD Gallery (Athens), and Volta 7 (Basel), and has participated in group exhibitions at the Benaki Museum, EMST, Thessaloniki Center of Contemporary Art, Kydonieos Foundation (Andros), as well as international events such as *UNTITLED* Miami and *ART021* Shanghai. His work has been featured in *Artforum* and *Vitamin D2*. In 2013 he received a Fulbright Fellowship, and since 2014 he has collaborated with Hermès, designing motifs for silk scarves.

— **Katelyn Ledford** (b. 1994, Texas) lives and works in New York. She studied painting at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (BFA, 2017) and earned an MFA from the Rhode Island School of Design (2019). Her practice centers on portraiture, focusing on women’s experiences, both personal and collective. Using photorealism and particularly *trompe-l’oeil*, she creates illusions in which what the viewer sees does not necessarily correspond to reality. In this way, she highlights the act of looking itself, inviting the eye to examine images closely and

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question first impressions. Objects and symbols often replace direct depictions, forming allegorical portraits that comment with humor, irony, and self-reflection on the illusions and conventions of the artistic and social world. Her work has been shown at institutions such as the Museum of Museums (Seattle) and the Southern Vermont Arts Center, and she has participated in international fairs including Frieze Seoul, ART021 Shanghai, EXPO Chicago, and NADA New York & Miami. Her work is in the

— **Ioanna Pantazopoulou** (b. 1984, Athens) lives and works in New York. She studied Fine Art at Chelsea College of Art and Design, London (BA and MA). Her practice focuses on sculptures and installations made from humble, discarded, or everyday materials—clothes, carpets, soda cans, even votive offerings—reshaped into contemporary monuments that balance between waste and luxury, memory and faith. Through this process of recomposition, her works comment on overproduction, consumer culture, and the materiality of daily life, while often highlighting the fragile relationship between spirituality and matter. Her practice is marked by a combination of humor and seriousness, as modest materials acquire new value and significance. She has exhibited at institutions such as Stavros Niarchos Hall–Greek National Opera (Athens), deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum (Massachusetts), Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM, New York), SCAD Gutstein Gallery (Savannah), the Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art, and NEON. Her works are held in major collections, including the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Fidelity Investments, and the Dakis Daskalopoulos Collection, confirming the international recognition of her practice.

— **Selma Parlour** (b. 1976, Johannesburg, South Africa) lives and works in London. She earned a BA in painting from De Montfort University, an MFA from the University of Reading, and in 2014 completed a PhD at Goldsmiths, University of London. Her practice focuses on meticulously crafted oil paintings on linen, which resemble drawings, prints, or fabric dyes more than traditional painting. She uses color as a translucent veil, creating luminous surfaces, fine lines, diagrammatic spaces, and tactile textures that evoke optical illusions. Her works function like windows of light, combining rigorous geometry with a poetic atmosphere. She has presented solo exhibitions at institutions and galleries such as Almine Rech (Paris), Pi Artworks (London, Istanbul), and MOT International (London), and has participated in group shows at the Saatchi Gallery, Royal Academy of Arts, and Palais de Tokyo. She has received awards including the Abbey Fellowship in Painting (British School at Rome, 2023), the Mark Rothko Memorial Trust Award (2018), the Sunny Dupree Family Award for a Woman Artist (Royal Academy, 2017), and the John Moores Painting Prize (2016). Her works are in public and private collections including the Saatchi Gallery and Christian Dior Couture, affirming the international recognition of her distinctive painterly language.

— **Diamantis Sotiropoulos** (b. 1978, Athens) lives and works in Athens. He studied painting at the Athens School of Fine Arts and attended the Academia de las Bellas Artes in Valencia. His paintings address the violence of power through zoomorphic and monstrous figures, rooted in an iconographic tradition stretching from the Middle Ages to comics and video games. Drawing on Byzantine and Gothic art, Dürer, German Romanticism, art nouveau, surrealism, and heavy metal aesthetics, he creates images rich in irony and critique. His works, dense with

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symbols and decorative details, dismantle authoritarian solemnity and reveal the emptiness behind the pretentious stance of petty bourgeois authority. In his recent work, he also incorporates Asian motifs, palettes, and references to nature, expanding his imaginative universe and underscoring the intercultural dimension of his practice. He has exhibited at institutions including the National Museum of Contemporary Art (EMST, Athens), Deutsche Guggenheim (Berlin), me Collectors Room (Berlin), and the State Museum of Contemporary Art (2nd Thessaloniki Biennale). His works are held in major collections including EMST, Deutsche Bank, the Olbricht Collection, and the Dakis Joannou Collection.

— **The Callas** is the artistic duo of siblings Aris (b. 1975) and Lakis Ioanas (b. 1974), who live and work in Athens. For over two decades they have been a central presence on the Athenian scene, having founded Velvet Room and the magazine VELVET, which connected music, cinema, and the arts across Greece. Their multidisciplinary practice spans visual arts, music, cinema, performance, textiles, and publishing, combining these into wholes they describe as “visual scores.” Characteristic of their work is the fusion of local and international, popular and avant-garde, with strong references to underground culture and the rock spirit. They have collaborated with Lee Ranaldo (Sonic Youth) and Jim Sclavunos (Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds) and directed four feature films. Their work has been presented at institutions including the New Museum (New York/Athens), Palais de Tokyo (Paris), the Athens Biennale, Benaki Museum, and DESTE Foundation. Their work is in the Dakis Joannou Collection and has been discussed in international media such as Ocula. Their practice combines Greek elements—architectural motifs, urban and natural landscapes of Athens—with international references to pop, psychedelia, and rock culture, creating a visual universe that is both local and global.

— **Marina Velisioti** (b. 1982, Thessaloniki) lives and works in Athens. She studied Applied Arts at the School of Fine Arts, Thessaloniki, and Scenography & Video Art at the Drama School of Aristotle University. Her multimedia practice includes weaving, ceramics, video, sound, and installation, exploring themes of esotericism, mysticism, and imaginary realities. Through these media she seeks to reveal “unspoken” connections and propose alternative narratives of history, often in opposition to dominant dogmas and accepted truths. Her works function as stage sets for parallel realities where the monumental coexists with the ephemeral, the visible with the invisible, offering a poetic yet critical reflection on how we perceive the world. She has exhibited at institutions including Onassis Stegi (Outraged by Pleasure), PCAI Polygreen (Sheltered Gardens), Goethe Institut (Sofia), and the Thessaloniki Film Festival. In 2022 she received the ARTWORKS Fellowship supported by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF), a recognition that highlights the impact of her work both in Greece and internationally.

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— Presentation info

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Art Athina, Zappeion Megaron, Athens
Booth #L6
September 18 - 22, 2025

— Upcoming Exhibition

Gisela McDaniel

Solo Exhibition - Residency Show
Dio Horia Gallery, Athens
October 18 - November 30, 2025

*For more information, contact us at sales@diohoria.com or by phone: +30 2106714827.