



Ally Rosenberg's *Long Shadows* opens at Dio Horia in Athens

Athens, March 15th – Dio Horia is pleased to present *Long Shadows*, a new series of works by London-based artist Ally Rosenberg. Marking the artist's first solo exhibition in Greece, *Long Shadows* opens on March 15th, in the presence of the artist. The exhibition includes a new series of sculptures by Rosenberg, the entirety of which were created in Athens during his participation in Dio Horia's residency program.

Long Shadows is a darkly playful exploration of the body, through material, object, image and time. Each of Rosenberg's sculptural works is seated on a solid, plinth-like shadow, cast in concrete and stretched across the gallery floors and walls. Dissected column radiators - once emitting heat, now rendered cold and redundant - fold, lean, and recline, playing with the traditional modes of sculpture and architecture that contextualise Rosenberg's time in residency in Athens. These radiators - called 'Athens radiators' in the UK, but not actually available in Athens - take a sublime historical aesthetic and reduce it to the pedestrian, middle-class tastes of domestic design. Crude, cartoonish penises and noses are cut from Athenian marble slabs and strewn across the floor, with shadows exaggerating their size. A doodle of a cloud, clad with ceramic bathroom tiles, is scrawled on the wall like adolescent graffiti.

"Where the body and architecture were once elevated to godly status, rendered in materials of permanent strength, with time, colours fade, pieces get broken off and meanings get revised and reappropriated. Columns designed to uphold the weight of grand structures eventually crumble. The bits that break off sculptures over time are the appendages - noses and penises - protrusions that supposedly signify strength and masculinity. Emperors and gods are eventually castrated by the passing millennia. Working in residence in Athens - a place of such deep and significant history - at a time when it feels like we are watching history unfold day by day, has felt strange. The dick-swinging competitions of thousands of years ago certainly cast a long shadow..."

In *Long Shadows*, Rosenberg uses literal, concrete shadows to describe a relationship between an object and its environment. They fold and wrap around a space, casting illusions, flattening 3D objects into two-dimensions, distorting, stretching and inflating them. Our shadows are evidence of our physical presence; our opaque materiality getting in the way of light. They are an extension of ourselves. They tell us the time, shifting and morphing throughout the day. We use them as symbols of unshakeable legacies, long-standing influences and perhaps things rather forgotten. Their ephemeral, shape-shifting elusiveness encourages us to project onto them, like psychological ink-blot drawings. In them, we are neurologically hardwired to see threats, or simulacra of ourselves. That which resides in a shadow is never fully hidden or revealed - it lurks.

Ally Rosenberg is a London-based artist from Manchester, working primarily in sculpture and installation. His work takes an irreverent look at the body, through slicing and casting materials with a structural quality that reveal a relationship between image and object. After graduating from Central St. Martins, he took an academic detour into cognitive neuroscience, completing an MSc at UCL and a residency at Harvard's neuro-imaging lab. This period of research, looking at the interface of anatomical structure and conscious experience, through the multiple planes of MRI images, influences Ally's recent sculptural work.



NOTES TO EDITORS

— **Ally Rosenberg** (b. 1991, UK) has received his Bachelor studies from Central St. Martins following with an MSc in cognitive neuroscience at UCL and a residency at Harvard's neuro-imaging lab. Rosenberg has participated in solo and group exhibitions internationally. Selected exhibitions include 'On Solid Ground, Bomb Factory Foundation, London, UK; 'The Fiction', Gallery Func, Shanghai, China; N'oisés From the Closet', The Flat - Massimo Carasi, Milan, Italy; 'Bums', Dio Horia Gallery, Mykonos, Greece; Art Xiamen Art & Design Fair, Xiamen, China; 'Much Too Shy', A.I.R. Gallery, Altrincham, UK; and many more. Ally Rosenberg's works have been presented by international art publications and media such as FAD Magazine, Artists Contemporary Podcast, Floorr Magazine, amongst others.

— Exhibition info

Ally Rosenberg: Long Shadows

Residency Show | Solo show
Dio Horia Athens
March 15 – April 20, 2022

Dio Horia Project Space Athens

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