



TAIPEN DANGDAI: Chris Akordalitis | A Garden of Earthly Delights

Dio Horia Booth #DG14

Dio Horia is pleased to announce Chris Akordalitis' solo presentation for Taipei Dangdai, 2023; 'A Garden of Earthly Delights', a selection of works inspired by Tao Qian's utopian vision that draws its main inspiration from the idea of a garden as home.

Akordalitis' artworks focus on the pursuit of pleasure through simplicity. The artist's technique is heavily-inspired by European great masters; Prof. Andreas Schulze and the artist Tony Cragg may be found amongst in his teachers. His work praises geometry and urban architectural elements, abounding in art historical references, such as British land art and environmental sculpture.

'A Garden of Earthly Delights' delivers a direct experience: the artist invites viewers to a utopian garden, emulating the ambience of a tranquil yet imaginary rural setting, going beyond the walls of the world. While these walls often served as a formidable material barrier, it is this very materiality that made them vulnerable to breaking.

In a large-scale oil-painting series made out of pure love, a brown tree trunk connects all paintings with effortless flow. The compositions feature a series of architecture elements that give the feeling of a temple – a rather holy place, that holds great significance and special meaning. In essence, this stands as a symbol of 'home', i.e. a safe place for everyone involved, where exotic birds fly freely around and the artist's Elves, an evolved human species, living in a more simple, aware and relaxed manner, come together to celebrate life, in a gender-free, quite uninhibited community that readily accepts all body shapes and forms.

Quoting some lyrical verses, this garden is a lovesome thing. Together, we share the struggle of growing to the burden of heavy fruits not yet ripen. While we weather storms and scavengers crowing, we wait for sunny days to come and our moods to finally lighten up.

Mastering the art of actionless action, Akordalitis' figures look like they embody Wu Wei at the deepest level; they have long ago stopped forcing themselves, going against the natural order and making life complicated, but rather been doing things with minimal effort, living in a state of alignment with the flow of life, with a relaxed sense of wakefulness, a peaceful alert attention that feels highly invigorating and joyful.

All-in-all, following the artworks titles, i.e. *Symbiosis, The Dance, The Secret, Welcoming, Fountain of Trust, Ritual, Connecting, Sharing, Theatre, Ceremony, You are safe here*, Akordalitis' dexterous storytelling looks like is all about acceptance, togetherness, co-existence and respect. In the artist's own words, "In these challenging times, where accepting each other appears to be so very difficult, I wanted to create this series to remind viewers that life can be much easier and happier, if we may just let go of anything holding us back, such as petty anger and fear."

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Ultimately, 'A Garden of Earthly Delights' promises a stroll to pleasure. Recovering from closed borders and strict quarantine regulations, this is the time to draw closer and start activating our numb senses, until, at long last, there dawns the light.

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Short Bio

— **Chris Akordalitis** (b.1989, Paphos, Cyprus) lives and works in Paphos. He received an MFA from Kunst academy in Düsseldorf, where he studied painting under Prof. Andreas Schulze and sculpture under the artist Tony Cragg. Selected solo exhibitions include: 'House Guests' at Half Gallery, LA, 'Inside/Outside' at Expo Chicago, Dio Horia Gallery, Chicago; 'Fragile Gods' at Dio Horia Gallery, Athens; 'Between Worlds' at Dio Horia Gallery, Mykonos. Selected group exhibitions include: Andrea Festa Fine Art, Rome; CAN Ibiza, Dio Horia Gallery, Ibiza; 'After Hope', Dio Horia Gallery, Athens; Untitled Miami, Dio Horia Gallery, Miami; Untitled Miami at Dio Horia Gallery, Online Edition, Artland; Future Fair, Dio Horia Gallery, Online edition, Artsy; 'Friends Non Show' at Dio Horia Gallery, Athens. His work has been reviewed by Artsy, Juxtapoz, ArtObserver, Art Chosun and other cultural media. Akordalitis' work has been part of prominent art collections, including Forecast Städtische at Galerie Kaarst, Kaarst; Gallery Pop68, Cologne; Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow; Planet 58 Kunstsammlung [K21], Düsseldorf; Water House of Art, Paphos; Xiao Museum, Rizhao; Zuzeum Art Centre, Riga.

— Presentation info

Chris Akordalitis: A Garden of Earthly Delights

Taipei Dangdai
Booth #DG14
May 12 – 14, 2023

Dio Horia Acropolis

5 – 7 Lempesi & 16 Porinou St
Acropolis, Athens, 11742
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Email: gallery@diohoria.com

— Upcoming Exhibition & Show

Mira Dancy

Solo Show
Dio Horia Acropolis
June 17 – July 29, 2023

Maja Djordjevic: Post-Digital Zen

Tokyo Gendai
Booth #H01
July 7 – 9, 2023