

DIO HORIA GALLERY
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ART021 | Chris Akordalitis, Elias Kafouros, Caroline Larsen, Laure Mary

Dio Horia Gallery is pleased to present 'NOW', a selection of works by artists Chris Akordalitis, Elias Kafouros, Caroline Larsen and Laure Mary, to be created especially for ART021 Shanghai 2023. Each artist brings a distinct yet harmonious voice to the collection, creating a captivating tapestry of vibrant landscapes, human form and emotions.

Influenced by his Cypriot roots and inspired by primitive art from Africa, Asia, and French Polynesia, artist Chris Akordalitis has forged a distinctive style. His work combines everyday observations with mystical symbolism, featuring joyful figures in joyful scenes through oil paintings and ceramics. Akordalitis explores the simple pleasures of life as a counterbalance to self-destructive patterns, promoting a utopian escape into nature and dreamlike refuges for tranquility. Capturing the essence of human fragility through his painstaking brushwork, the series of oil paintings presented unravel a love story grounded in the everyday, seamlessly blending Asian and universal themes in a surprising, yet so familiar manner.

Fulbright recipient Elias Kafouros stands out as one of the most significant Greek visual artists in his generation. His work is a reflection of his multifaceted personality, marked by deep perception and philosophical thinking. Kafouros is intrigued by the interplay of flow, narrative, geometry, and symmetry. He creates visually rich compositions by layering objects and figures drawn from everyday life, and shared collective concepts. The bold ink lines and dynamic compositions in his 'Flyer Loops' series involve a mix of diverse elements, all meticulously arranged to achieve visual balance. The core of his work resides in its connection to a virtual space, with a focus on the mental space inside the artwork, unfolding into the intricate layers and arrangements within the artworks.

Following her latest, most successful solo show in Miami, Canadian artist Caroline Larsen showcases her remarkable expertise in the interplay of color and texture. Her acrylic and oil landscapes are a harmonious blend of technical skill and her discerning use of colors and textures, resulting in a deeply engaging and emotional experience for the viewer. What sets her work apart is the tactile quality, as the textured surfaces invite viewers to not only see but touch the art, drawing them into a dreamlike world. In her art, one doesn't merely observe but actively engages with a multisensory experience, forging a profound connection between the art and its audience.

Completing the quartet of presented artists, Laure Mary showcases her last two works signing with her full name, and an extra work that introduces a new period in her artistic practice. Delving into contemplations of the passage of time, this French artist, well-known for her participation in numerous institutional exhibitions, infuses everyday scenes with an eerie and surreal quality. Her artistic technique is meticulous, as she employs labor-intensive methods in her oil paintings, making objects defy gravity, placing animals in domestic settings, and

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portraying chairs that seem to fall of their own accord. Remarkably, her art is devoid of human presence, fostering an openness to interpretation and hinting that the central action occurs just beyond the canvas.

The juxtaposition of Akordalitis' delicate touch, Kafouros' expressive ink work, Larsen's vibrant hues and Laure Mary's surrealistic approach creates a visual dialogue that explores the vast spectrum of human experiences. Together, these four artists weave a captivating narrative of the human condition, inviting viewers to reflect on their own vulnerabilities, strengths, and emotions. Their collective presentation serves as a reminder of the infinite possibilities that lie within the realm of contemporary art, capturing the essence of what it means to be human in all its complexities.

— END —

Short Bios

— **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: 'A garden of earthly delights', Taipei Dangdai, Dio Horia Gallery, Taipei; 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 ~~Not~~ 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.

— **Elias Kafouros** (b. 1978, Athens, Greece) lives and works in Athens. The artist has received a BFA in Painting from the Athens School of Fine Arts in 2004 and studied Animation at the School of Visual Arts in New York. Kafouros' solo exhibitions include: 'Push Buttons' at Dio Horia Gallery, Athens; 'Incognito' at Dio Horia Gallery, Mykonos; 'The Image is Unsustainable' at Françoise Heitsch Gallery, Munich; 'A Thesis on the Shelf' at AD Gallery, Athens; 'High on Definition' at Volta 7,

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Basel. Kafouros' group exhibitions include: 'Cities of Men', Kydoniefs Foundation, Andros; 'After Hope', Dio Horia Gallery, Athens; 'Art-Athina Pop Up', Dio Horia Gallery, Athens; 'Symbols and Iconic Ruins' at National Museum of Contemporary Art, Athens; 'Newer Revolutionary Narratives-Transitions of an Ideal Nation', J&E Vatis Art Hall, Syros; 'Caritas Romana:15 Acts of Devotion', Main exhibition of the 59th Thessaloniki International Film Festival at Thessaloniki Center of Contemporary Art, Thessaloniki. His work has been featured in Hypebeast and Artforum, among others. Kafouros has been commissioned by Hèrmes to create a series of designs for the legendary Hèrmes silk scarves. In 2013, he was the recipient of the Fulbright Foundation Grant.

— **Caroline Larsen** (b. 1980 Toronto, Canada) lives and works in Brooklyn. Larsen has a BA from the University of Waterloo, ON, Canada and Graduate Diploma in Visual Arts and Art History Education from the University of Auckland and received her MFA with honors at Pratt in 2015. Selected exhibitions include: 'Peaks and Valleys', Mindy Solomon Gallery, Miami; 'Chromatic' at Over the Influence, Hong Kong; 'Double Vision' at The Hole NYC, New York; 'The Gilded Lily' at Mindy Solomon Gallery, Miami; 'Mystic Flowers' at Craig Krull Gallery, Santa Monica; 'Cyclades' at Dio Horia Gallery, Mykonos; 'Kaleidoscopic' at The Hole NYC, New York; 'Flower Frenzy' at Andrew Rafacz, Chicago; 'Romance on the Islands', Residency Show at Dio Horia Gallery, Mykonos, Greece; 'Palm Flora' at Mulherin Gallery, New York. Selected group exhibitions include: Art Athina, Dio Horia Gallery, Athens; 'The Hole Jungle' at The Hole NYC, New York; 'Fairylend' at Mindy Solomon Gallery, Miami; 'Notions of Female Leadership' at Dio Horia Gallery, Art Virtual Online, Athens; 'Friends Non Show' at Dio Horia Gallery, Athens; 'Works on Paper' at Beers Gallery, London, 'Selections from our Contemporary Collection' at Hollis Taggart, New York; 'The Beyond' Georgia O'Keefe and Contemporary Artists, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville. Exhibition travels to the North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, North Carolina and New Britain Museum of American Art, Connecticut; 'No Commission' at Dean Collection, Berlin; 'The Veterans' at Dio Horia Gallery, Mykonos. Larsen's work is included in the Dean Collection, the Aishti Foundation, JB Art Collection Miami, TD Canada, the Donovan Collection, Microsoft and numerous other public collections around the world.

— **Laure Mary** (b.1989, France) has received her Bachelor and Masters studies from the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts of Lyon in France. Mary has participated in various solo and group exhibitions. Selected solo exhibitions include: 'Are You Still Watching?', Expo Chicago, Richard Heller Gallery, Chicago; 'All or Nothing', Richard Heller Gallery, Santa Monica; 'Time Out', Dio Horia Gallery,

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Athens, Greece 'Escape Lane', Richard Heller Gallery, California, USA; 'Dream Bank', Domaine de Rouerie, Contemporary Art Center, Sud Hérault, France; 'Love is a beach', Contemporary Art Center le Vog, Fontaine, France; 'J'irai Fleurir sous tes reins', International Biennale of Contemporary Art, among others. Selected group exhibitions include: 'Daily Poison', Better Go South Gallery, Stuttgart; 'Record of Possession' Everyday Moonday Gallery, Seoul, 'Satellite Of Love', Richard Heller Gallery, Santa Monica; 'Romancing Relevance' WOAW Gallery, Hong Kong; 'Black & White vs. Color', Richard Heller Gallery, California; 'Rendez-vous à la Havane', Centro de Arte Contemporaneo Wifredo Lam, Havana, Cuba; 'La Littorale #7', Chambre(s) d'Amour, curated by Richard Leydier, International Biennale of Contemporary Art of Anglet, Côte Basque, Anglet, France; International Biennale of Contemporary Art of Lyon - Institute of Contemporary Art IAC - Villeurbanne, France; La synchronicité des éléments - CACN, Contemporary Art Center of Nîmes - Nîmes, France. Mary was awarded winner of the visual arts commission at International City of Arts, Paris, France. Her work is featured in numerous public and private collections, such as Association Les Harpailleurs, Switzerland, The Beth Rudin DeWoody Collection, USA, the Château de Courterolles, France, the Domaine de Roueïre, Sud-Hérault, France, The Hall Art Foundation, USA. Mary's works have been presented by international art publications such as Juxtapoz, Artpress, Elle, Le Monde, among others.

— Exhibition info

**Chris Akordalitis, Elias Kafouros,
Caroline Larsen, Laure Mary: Group
Presentation**

ART021 Shanghai

Booth #P05

November 09 – 12, 2023

Dio Horia Acropolis

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— Current & upcoming projects

The Callas: Strange Fruits

Solo Show

Dio Horia Acropolis, Athens

November 01, 2023 – January 06, 2024

**Chris Akordalitis, The Callas (Lakis &
Aris Ionas), Maja Djordjevic, Elias
Kafouros, Laure Mary, Selma Parlour,
Ally Rosenberg, Aleksandar Todorovic:
Group Presentation**

Untitled Art Fair, Miami

Booth #B12

December 06 – 10, 2023