



CREATIVETIME

Creative Time Announces May Programs in Europe with International Collaborators

Symposium with the Onassis Cultural Centre and Fast Forward Festival in Athens and Venice Panel with Microclima Herald Organization's Global Focus

(NEW YORK, NY – April 12, 2017) Creative Time is pleased to announce two events in Europe this spring, at the Onassis Cultural Centre's Fast Forward Festival and during the opening week of the Venice Biennale, furthering its goal of global engagement. Both events will address the growth of right-wing political movements across a number of countries, and the ways artists, curators, and organizations are responding. Following three traveling iterations of the annual Creative Time Summit held in recent years, the acclaimed arts organization continues to engage new communities with these latest international events.

"The subjects Creative Time grapples with are often unconstrained by geography, and branching out into more international programming reflects that," says **Creative Time Executive Director Katie Hollander**. "These are issues of global importance, in keeping with both our mission and our efforts to engage with, learn from, and contribute to the international artistic community."

Art in Precarious Times: A Panel Coinciding with the Opening of the Venice Biennale

A discussion of the implications of the global rightward shift on creative practices

**Venice, May 9, 6PM
Serra dei Giardini**

First, on Tuesday, May 9th, to kick off the Venice Biennale opening week, Creative Time will partner with the local organization **Microclima** to present an evening conversation in the gardens of the Serra dei Giardini. The event will feature a group of international artists and

curators, including Creative Time's **Nato Thompson** and **Elvira Dyangani Ose**. As varying degrees of censorship and repression of progressive action become normalized in many nations around the world, the panel will reflect on the current political moment and the implications of the global shift right for creative practices and collective futures.

Other participants in the panel will include **Paolo Rosso** of Microclima, artist, musician, and writer **Hassan Khan**, and Hands Off Our Revolution founder **Ann Marie Peña**. Drinks and music in the garden will follow the conversation.

ABOUT MICROCLIMA

Founded in Venice by artistic director Paolo Rosso in 2011, Microclima is a cultural programme that focuses on projects relating to the natural world, cultural heritage and the public sphere. It is housed in the Serra dei Giardini, a greenhouse in the Biennale Gardens that was built in 1894 to preserve the exotic plants that decorated the first International Exhibitions of Art. Microclima has also branches in Guwahati (India), Santiago (Cuba), Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia) and events in various spots.

To attend, please RSVP to events@creativetime.org.

On Homelands and the Stateless as the World Tilts Right

An international symposium co-organized by the Fast Forward Festival and Creative Time

Athens, May 13-14, 2017
Onassis Cultural Centre, Upper Stage

TO REGISTER | E: infotickets@sgt.gr | P: +30 213 017 8036

Admission is **free**, but advance registration is required

Second, Creative Time and Fast Forward Festival will come together in Athens to co-present ***On Homelands and the Stateless as the World Tilts Right***, an international symposium investigating the challenges facing artists and activist communities under our prevailing economic and political conditions.

“The backlash of neoliberal globalism is clearly at work in the arts and beyond,” says **Creative Time Artistic Director Nato Thompson**. “These open-ended investigations approach the rise of the right with particular attention to its international and most importantly, local, manifestations and resistances.”

Taking its cue from the Fast Forward Festival's thematic interest in transcending borderlines, the symposium brings together seven representatives from cultural organizations across the globe (North America, Southeast Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, Europe, South Asia, Southern Africa, Greece), who have each invited artists and activists from the same

geography, to share critical, practice-based perspectives on art and politics of this moment as experienced from their specific regions. These situated perspectives will address shared concerns around the im/mobilities of migrants, labor, capital and culture; the workings of power; and the constructedness of borders. Greece-based artists and social workers will provide local perspectives in relation to questions posed by the international participants.

“The refugee reception crisis and the abrupt economic and political transformations in Greece increased the need to create discursive platforms which introduce various forms of togetherness” argues **Fast Forward Festival’s Artistic Director Katia Arfara**. “Often confronted with extreme social phenomena, these collaborative working methods give voices to silenced groups while operating at the intersections of art, politics and education”.

The symposium will feature keynote speeches by artist **Tania Bruguera** and curator of the Vargas Museum in Manila **Patrick D. Flores**. Panelists include:

- **Katia Arfara** from the Onassis Cultural Centre in Athens, Greece, with **Michael Afolayan** (ANASA Cultural Center), **Anna Apostolidou** (Project Press, Hellenic Open University), **Nadina Christopoulou** (Melissa Network), **Angela Dimitrakaki** (University of Edinburgh), **Iliana Fokianaki** (State of Concept), **Yunus Muhammadi** (Greek Forum of Refugees), artist and filmmaker **Theo Prodromidis**, **Nikos Agapakis** (Piraeus Open School of Immigrants) and **UNHCR Greece**.
- **Nato Thompson** from **Creative Time** in New York City, US, with artist **Simone Leigh** (US) and legal activist and playwright **Mary Kathryn Nagle** (US)
- **Brigitta Isabella** from the **KUNCI Cultural Studies Center** in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, with singer and cultural geographer **Anjeline de Dios** (Philippines) and artist **Tintin Wulia** (Australia)
- **Beth Stryker** from the **Cairo Lab for Urban Studies, Training and Environmental Research (CLUSTER)** in Cairo, Egypt, with artist **Nida Sinnokrot** (Palestine) and researcher **Shela Sheikh** (UK)
- **Miguel Lopez** from **TEOR/ÉTica** in San Jose, Costa Rica, with Maya K'iche' sociologist and activist **Gladys Tzul Tzul** (Guatemala) and multimedia artist and indigenous activist **Benvenuto Chavajay** (Guatemala)
- **Defne Ayas** from **Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art** in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, with artist and playwright **Natalia Antonova** (Russia) and writer and curator **Adam Kleinman** (USA/The Netherlands)
- **Pooja Sood** from **Khoj International Artists' Association** in New Delhi, India with

theatre director Zuleikha Chaudhari

- **Athi Mongezeleli Joja** from Gugulective in Cape Town, South Africa, with activist and journalist **Zimasa Mpemnyama** (South Africa) and researcher and activist **Ziyana Lategan** (South Africa)

For more information about all participants visit: creativetime.org/summit/athens-2017

Special lunches will be created by **Options FoodLab**, a community of locals and newcomers to Athens who use food and cooking as a catalyst for intercultural exchange, personal growth, and integration.

On Homelands and the Stateless as the World Tilts Right is co-curated by Onassis Cultural Centre's **Katia Arfara** and Creative Time's **Nato Thompson**.

ABOUT CREATIVE TIME SUMMIT DISPATCH

Creative Time is proud to announce the symposium as the first iteration of its newest initiative, Creative Time Summit Dispatch. Inspired by the global communities that have grown around the Summit over the past eight years, this nomadic series of convenings will be presented in partnership with arts organizations and institutions in various cities around the world and will address urgent issues at the intersection of art and politics in inventive and flexible formats.

ABOUT CREATIVE TIME

Creative Time, the New York based public arts non-profit, is committed to working with artists on the dialogues, debates and dreams of our time. Creative Time presents the most innovative art in the public realm, providing new platforms to amplify artists voices, including the Creative Time Summit - an international convening at the intersection of art and social justice.

Since 1974, Creative Time has produced over 350 groundbreaking public art projects that ignite the imagination, explore ideas that shape society, and engage millions of people around the globe. The non-profit that since its inception has been at the forefront of socially engaged public art seeks to convert the power of artists' ideas into works that inspire and challenge the public. Creative Time projects stimulate dialogue on timely issues, and initiate a dynamic experience between artists, sites, and audiences.

For more information on Creative Time please visit www.creativetime.org. To connect with us via twitter use @CreativeTime and find us on Instagram @CreativeTimeNYC.

ABOUT THE ONASSIS CULTURAL CENTRE & THE FAST FORWARD FESTIVAL

Onassis Cultural Centre — Athens is a performing and visual arts center, a creative hub for artists, audiences and ideas. A home for innovation in contemporary culture, engaging both

Greek and global communities. Since 2014, Onassis Cultural Centre has organized the annual Fast Forward Festival in public and private spaces in Athens and Piraeus. It investigates current sociopolitical debates through site-specific public works which incorporate an expanded field of art practices. The festival takes place at the intersection of performance, dance, film and visual arts exploring alternative geopolitical narratives and cultural strategies which dialectically combine documentary with fiction, participation with observation, critical analysis with artistic imagination.