

ZzzzzzzZZZZ IN ATOPOS  
SHOBOSHOBO

## 2 NOVEMBER - 18 DECEMBER 2010

72 SALAMINOS STR., ATHENS / GREECE

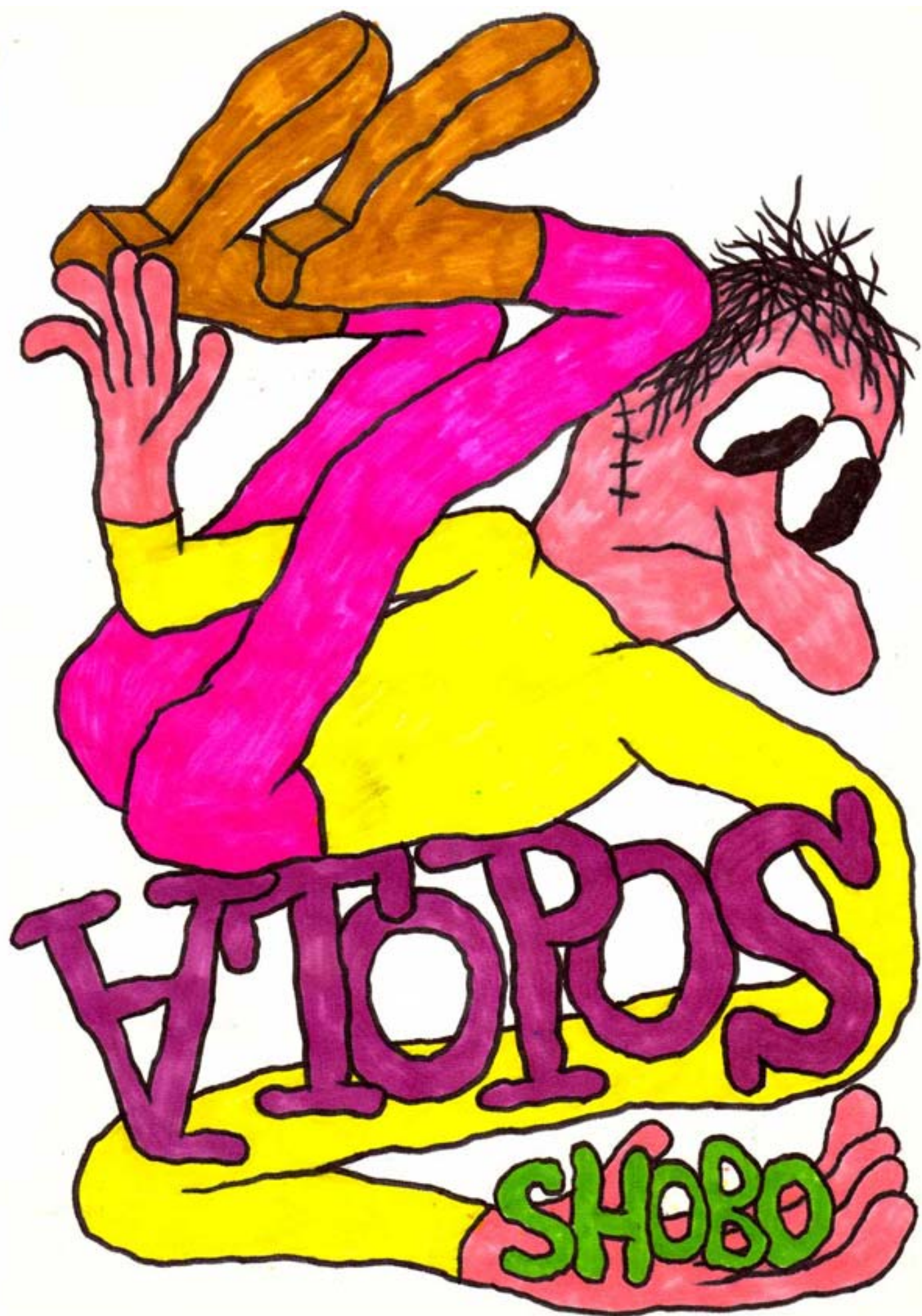
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**UTOPOS** Contemporary Visual Culture (ATOPOS CVC)

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# EXHIBITION

## ZzzzzzzZZZZ IN ATOPOS SHOBOSHOB

The Cultural Organization **ATOPOS Contemporary Visual Culture** (ATOPOS cvc) launches its new space in the Metaxourgio district of **Athens** and invites you to discover it through the pioneering work of SHOBOSHOB. The visitor is invited to explore the entire building through the interventions and installations created by the French artist.

The inhabitants of **SHOBOSHOB**'s artistic universe and the principal characters of **ZZzzzzZZZZ in ATOPOS** are monsters. Humanoid figures, dismembered and disfigured, monstrous, naïve and sexy, delightful and violent, all belonging to a broader pop phenomenon, that of **Contemporary Characters**. **SHOBOSHOB** has installed six "sleepy giants" in our new space which occupy most of the building. He also presents a series of prints and drawings in ink and felt tip pen and a specially commissioned mural in our meeting room that it was paint few days before the opening. The soundtrack of the exhibition has been composed by **SHOBOSHOB**, especially for **ZZzzzzZZZZ in ATOPOS** and is a significant feature of the exhibition. Also the ATOPOS CVC presented the project **Atopic Bodies [Two]: Sianoise Twins**, a sound performance created by SHOBOSHOB in collaboration with the artist **FREEKA**.

ATOPOS' new building which house **SHOBOSHOB**'s work is located at 72 Salaminos Street, in the heart of the Metaxourgio District in Athens. It was an old abandoned house which was transformed into a contemporary professional space by the architectural company **CF Company**. In its original state it was a typical Athenian residence of 1912 with a yard, a loggia on the upper floor and neoclassical influences but also modern form quests of the time. With great respect for the original form of the building, the residence on Salaminos Street was renovated in a manner which managed to preserve the original form of the building reproducing the slightest detail with respect, while at the same time making it exude a modern esthetic. The building on Salaminos Street has been converted into a living organism: this is where ATOPOS's offices and library are housed, and where the largest collection in the world of paper clothes that was presented in the exhibition **"RRRIPP!!!! Paper Fashion"** is kept, but it is also an exhibition space, a workshop and a meeting place for people and ideas.

The exhibition will be on display until **18 December 2010**.

It will be open for the public on: **Wednesdays 16:00 – 19:00** and **Saturdays 12:00 – 16:00**.

Organised by **ATOPOS Contemporary Visual Culture**

Curated by **Vassilis Zidianakis**











# SHOBOSHOBO

Hidden behind this onomatopoeia is Mehdi Hercberg, a prolific and instinctive artist, illustrator and musician from Paris.

His project Shoboshobo started as a bus tour of visual artists and musicians through Japan, with interactive and spontaneous collaborative happenings along the way. In Paris, Shoboshobo has continued as an irregular series of events attracting avant-garde music projects from around the world. The graphical aspects of Shoboshobo soon followed.

Much influenced both by Art brut and Japanese experimental scene, Shoboshobo's work has this rigorous and repetitive spirit that leads to a total abandonment of both of the gesture and of the representation. Sometimes approaching abstraction, his drawings and especially his wall drawings are combining both improvisation and control. His whole universe is swarming with monsters, characters with doodled anatomy, geometrical and drooling landscapes. All this looking really simple but actually being a gore and delirious turmoil. In his drawings he twists and turns the human body with all the obsessive energy of a Rubik's Cube fanatic, distorting it sometimes so violently that little more remains than a heap of over-stretched skin, albeit beautifully executed.

Shoboshobo's work (expressed as performance, music, drawing, installation, fashion) has been showed in numerous countries in Europe as well as in Argentina, USA and Japan.









**Atopic Bodies [TWO]: Sianoise Twins**