

#### **PRESS RELEASE**

# **Occupy Atopos**

# #NevinAladağ #DanielKnorr #IbrahimMahama

# An open studio event with the resident artists of Atopos cvc in collaboration with documenta 14

**Date //** Monday March 27<sup>th</sup> at 19:00 **ATOPOS CVC //** 72 Salaminos str. **//** Metaxourgeio // Athens // Greece (nearest Metro stations Kerameikos and Metaxourgeio)

#### **Entrance free**

Atopos cvc continues its collaboration with documenta 14 in the context of its artist-in-residence programme. documenta 14 artists Nevin Aladag, Daniel Knorr and Ibrahim Mahama have been participating in the Occupy Atopos Residency for the last three months working on their project for the forthcoming exhibition in Athens and Kassel.

On Monday March 27th at 19:00 Atopos cvc and documenta 14 invite you to an open studio event showcasing the three resident artists of Atopos cvc. Aladag, Knorr and Mahama will open their studios in the Atopos premises, in Athens, just for one evening, during which they will share their residency experience and their artistic processes with the public through the presentation of older works and projects of theirs. The evening will start with greetings and introduction speeches by Vassilis Zidianakis, Artistic Director of Atopos cvc, and Adam Szymczyk, Artistic Director of documenta 14 followed by Knorr's and Mahama's talks.

#### **OCCUPY ATOPOS RESIDENCY**

Atopos cvc was founded in 2003 by Stamos Fafalios and Vassilis Zidianakis and it has been researching and initiating innovative projects of contemporary visual culture ever since. Occupy Atopos Residency originated in 2014 in the Atopos headquarters in the heart of Athens and it has hosted photographer Ren Hang, artist-critic Clo'e Floirat and Paris-based fashion curator Lydia Kamitsis, amongst others. Its mission is to observe and assist in a supportive way the creative process and progress of contemporary artists; it is curated by Vassilis Zidianakis. Occupy Atopos Residency takes place in Atopos headquarters, 72 Salaminos str, which has been declared a historic monument and a work of art by the Greek Ministry of Culture. The collaboration of Atopos cvc and documenta 14, in the context of the Occupy Atopos Residency programme, started in the autumn of 2016 and will be completed in July 2017. This important partnership was officially launched in September 8th, 2016 with the artist Bouchra Khalili.

## **DOCUMENTA 14**

Documenta was initiated by Arnold Bode in 1955 and became one of the most renowned and debated international exhibitions of contemporary art, taking place in Kassel every five years. For



documenta 14 Artistic Director Adam Szymczyk, has proposed a twofold structure, reflected in the working title "Learning from Athens". In 2017, Athens (April 8–July 16, 2017) and Kassel (June 10–September 17, 2017) will host the exhibition on an equal footing. For documenta 14, participating artists have been invited to think and produce within the context of the emerging dynamic relationship between these two cities and to develop a work for each of the two locations.

#### **ARTISTS' BIOS**

## Nevin Aladağ

Nevin Aladağ 's participation in the Occupy Atopos Residency started on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and will be completed on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

The artist has gained international attention for her installations, video works and performances. Her works have been shown internationally, in various solo and group exhibitions at institutions including LENTOS Kunstmuseum, Linz, Austria; Kunstmuseum Stuttgart, Stuttgart, Germany; Kunsthalle Basel; Basel, Switzerland; Pythagorion Art Space Schwarz Foundation, Samos, Greece; Kunstverein Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany; Berlinische Galerie, Berlin, Germany; ARTER Vehbi Koc Foundation, Istanbul, Turkey; Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, Wolfsburg, Germany; Marta Herford, Herford, Germany; MOT- Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan; Haus der Kunst, Munich, Germany; Hayward Gallery, London, Great Britain; Kunsthaus Zürich, Zurich, Switzerland; Kunsthalle Fridericianum, Kassel, Germany; Mathildenhöhe, Darmstadt, Germany; TBA 21 Thyssen Bornemisza Contemporary, Vienna, Austria; Museo Tamayo in Mexico City, Mexico. Aladag participated in the 2013 Sharjah Biennial (UAE), in the 11th Istanbul Biennial in 2009 (Turkey), The 8th Taipei Biennial in 2008 (PR China) and the XIV Biennale Internazionale Scultura, Carrara, in 2010 (Italy).

#### **Daniel Knorr**

Daniel Knorr's participation in the Occupy Atopos Residency started on December 12th, 2016 and will be completed on April 30th 2017.

The artist was born in 1968 in Bucharest and lives in Berlin. Knorr refers to his conceptually driven practice as "Materialization". His work has been presented through various solo shows: Die Höhen der Tiefen in Galerie Meyer Riegger Karlsruhe (2017), La Pietra della Rinascita la GAMeC Bergamo, (2015), Lunarium at Galerie Nächst St. Stephan Wien (2014), Vulkanstr. at Galeria Fonti Napoli, Depression Elevations at Kayne Griffin Corcoran Gallery Los Angeles (2013), Explosion, at the Kunsthalle Wien (2012), Limits of Jurisdiction at Färgfabriken Stockholm (2011), Led R Nanirok, at Kunsthalle Basel, Awake Asleep, at Museum of Modern Art Warsaw (2009), Scherben bringen Glück at Kunsthalle Fridericianum, Kassel (2008), Romanian Pavilion at the 51st Biennial of Art in Venice (2005). Additionally, Knorr has participated in a large number of group shows: Made in Germany 3 Kestner Gesellschaft Hannover, Collection KiCo Lenbachhaus München, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Migrosmuseum Zürich (2017), Kunsthalle Zürich (2015), The way of the shovel, Museum of contemporary Art Chicago, Le Pont Musee d'Art Moderne Marseille (2013), Reflecting Fashion Museum für Moderne Kunst Wien (2012), Second World, Steierischer Herbst (2011), The promises of the past, Centre Pompidou, Paris (2010), Manifesta 7, Rovereto; 5th Berlin Biennial (2008).

#### **Ibrahim Mahama**

Ibrahim Mahama' participation in the Occupy Atopos Residency started on January 11th and will be completed on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Mahama is an artist who lives and works in Tamale, Ghana. He has recently enrolled in the PhD (Studio) programme in the Department of Painting and Sculpture, Kwame Nkrumah University of



Science and Technology. In 2012 he began producing "Occupations", a series of itinerant installations made in collaboration with migrant communities using industrial materials, namely jute fiber sacks used to carry various commodities. These sacks are introduced into spaces and begin to question the systems of production and the very sense of occupation. Architecture plays the role of both protagonist and antagonist in these immersive yet very temporal projects. His work has been included in a number of group shows including Pangea I and Pangea II Saatchi Gallery, London, Silence Between The Lines in Ahenema Kokobeng, Kumasi, The Gown Must Go To town, Accra and the 56th Venice Biennale. In his most recent work he questions the place of modern architecture within two cosmopolitan cities in Ghana using the subtle choices of form, time and with the help of his network of collaborators. Failure and crisis are fundamental to his production processes.

## **RELEVANT LINKS**

documenta 14

Occupy Atopos Artist Residency

# **Atopos cvc / Communication**

Kika Kyriakakou | kika.kyriakakou@atopos.gr | press@atopos.gr +302105242004 | +302108838151 (Monday-Friday, 11:00-19:00)

#### **ATOPOS CVC**

72 Salaminos str., GR 10435 Metaxourgeio, Athens, Greece www.atopos.gr

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