

## PRESS RELEASE

# Atopos BlahBlahBlah #KostisStafylakis

**Curator: Vassilis Zidianakis**

**Date & Time** // Wednesday May 11th 2016 from 19:00 to 22:00.

**Location** // **ATOPOS CVC** // 72 Salaminos str. // Metaxourgeio // Athens // Greece (nearest Metro stations Kerameikos and Metaxourgeio)

**Entrance free**

**Atopos BlahBlahBlah** is a project curated by **Vassilis Zidianakis** and inspired by **Atopos'** research for its new book titled **UNLOCKED**; a publication that attempts to "unlock" the depiction of the Naked Body in post-photographic, digital era.

As part of the **Atopos BlahBlahBlah** program **Kostis Stafylakis** presents a lecture followed by a discussion under the title **Rethinking the critique of presence: body and gesture in the post-internet condition**. In 1981, feminist artist **Mary Kelly** published a critical text that scrutinized the axioms of performance: performance art was a genre disposed to challenge the metaphysical standards of modernism – the hegemony of the white male self-expressed individual artist. Kelly claimed that performance's recourse to the "bodily", the "gestural", the suffering and the self-wounding was the latest recuperation of modernist "metaphysics of presence" in a row of dubious attempts to overthrow it. Is this critique still relevant today? The **UNLOCKED** publication by **ATOPOS cvc** offers an opportunity to revisit the question and explore the role of presence in recent post-internet imagery. What does the return of bodily representation mean? What does it testify for? Which certainties does it bring along or challenge?

## About the artist

**Kostis Stafylakis** is an art theorist and artist. He graduated from the **Athens School of Fine Arts**. He holds an **MA in Modern Art and Theory (Uni. Essex)** and an **MA in Continental Philosophy (Uni. Essex)**. He received his doctorate from the **Department of Political Science and History, Panteion University, Athens**, focusing on the political discourse launched by 21st century global art shows and especially **Documenta 11**. Along with **Yannis Stavrakakis**, he edited the anthology **The Political in Contemporary Art** (Ekkremes 2008). He taught **Research-based Art** at the **Unit of Innovation and Entrepreneurship** at the **Athens School of Fine Arts** and he currently teaches **Art and Visual communication** at the **University of Patras**. He was co-curator of **AGORA, the 4<sup>th</sup> Athens biennial**. Along with **Vana Kostayola**, he runs **kavecS (www.kavecs.com)**, an experiment with modes of overidentification.

# ΑΤΟΠΟΣ

CONTEMPORARY VISUAL CULTURE

## Communication

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## ATOPOS CVC

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