



künstlerhaus bethanien gmbh : press release

Berlin, 10th February 2010

Dear Colleagues,

We are happy to invite you to the opening of the following exhibition:

DAFNI BARBAGEORGOPOULOU

Floating Islands

19th February – 7th March 2010

Tue – Sun, 2 – 7 pm, Studio 3

Opening: Thursday, 18th February, from 7 pm

Dafni Barbageorgopoulou's full-wall tapestry works and sculptures draw their inspiration from a wealth of different influences ranging from Greek to Mexican and Indonesian art, from geometry to poetry or from handicraft knotting techniques to monumental architecture. Her works are characterised by the powerful fusion of a large number of ideas, disciplines and genres taken from a wide cultural spectrum. In her current research, Barbageorgopoulou is investigating the link between the narrative structures of dreams and journeys and examining the ways in which these structures are manifest – whether in the permanent form of a sculpture or through the media of installation, drawing and collage. Dreams and journeys are the material upon which Barbageogopoulou's artistic practice is based, and most of the individual elements in her works originate from detailed memories of dreams that she has experienced during her travels. The spatial and temporal transitions that take place during a journey correspond to the non-linear, apparently organic growth of the geometric patterns and repeated sequences in her works, which turn the intuitive relations between memory and action into tools of artistic expression. Barbageorgopoulou observes and develops this intuitive art form very consciously, paying attention to the extent to which the finished art object

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conserves the energy released during its creation, and asking how two-dimensionality should be transposed into three-dimensionality (and vice versa) or how abstracted images can be transformed into geometrical figures and patterns.

As Barbageorgopoulou tends to work simultaneously on different works and in different media, the exhibition *Floating Islands*, which collects together her recently completed pieces, offers the diversity and wealth of a small group exhibition including sculptures (the *Floating Islands* of the title), tapestry (*Resurrection*), small bronze sculptures (*Brotherhood*), and a large-format neon-work (*Müritz Lakes*).

Dafni Barbageorgopoulou, born in Johannesburg in 1977, lives and works in Athens. She studied sculpture at the Athens School of Fine Arts (BFA) and the Royal College of Art in London (MA, 2006). Dafni Barbageorgopoulou has already taken part in a number of international exhibitions; she will next be part of the forthcoming *Group Show: Part II*, curated by Hadassah Emmerich, at Akinci gallery, Amsterdam, in March 2010. Dafni Barbageorgopoulou holds a fellowship from the Propondis Foundation and the Leon & Aspasia Lemos Charitable Foundation and is currently a guest at Künstlerhaus Bethanien in the context of our International Studio Programme.

The press office of Künstlerhaus Bethanien is happy to provide further information and picture material on request.

Best regards,
Künstlerhaus Bethanien