

PRESS RELEASE

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So Close Yet So Far Away | Contemporary Artists from Cyprus

Exhibition opening: 12 January 2017, 20:00 Petah Tikva Museum of Art, Israel

The Nicosia Municipal Arts Centre – Associated with the Pierides Foundation [NiMAC] in collaboration with the Petah Tikva Museum of Art, Israel organise and present the exhibition *So Close Yet So Far Away* | *Contemporary Artists from Cyprus*. The exhibition, which will be opened at the Petah Tikva Museum of Art on 12 January 2017 at 20:00, will be presented until 11 March 2017.

Curated by Yiannis Toumazis, the exhibition presents for the first in Israel a dynamic group of seventeen Cypriot contemporary artists. The exhibition attempts to illustrate how, in this era of globalization and increased visibility of "peripheral" artistic activity, contemporary Cypriot artists negotiate issues of history, memory, and politics,

Cyprus is so close to Israel, yet it lies so far away. Despite their geographical proximity, the two countries know very little about each other, and art is no exception. Alongside their many differences, they share significant similarities, including a long and dominant historical past, constant geopolitical turmoil, and incessant crises –social, religious, political, and financial– which continue to affect the present and the future.

The artists invite us to reflect on history, memory and politics in relation to contemporary Cypriot culture and to the many complexities of Cypriot identity.

Participating artists: Klitsa Antoniou, Marianna Christofides, Kyriaki Costa, Theodoulos Gregoriou, Elizabeth Hoak-Doering, Andreas Kalli, Eleni Kamma, Nurtane Karagil, Lia Lapithi, Kamil Saldun, Andreas Savva, Nayia Savva, Constantinos Taliotis, TWOFORTWO (Costas Mantzalos and Constantinos Kounnis), Marina Xenophontos, Sholeh Zahraei.

On the night of the exhibition's opening the Marsh Dondurma group will perform live.

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