

Simon Banos

## A DIGISCAPE FROM REALITY

2 FEBRUARY – 26 FEBRUARY 2017

OPENING Thursday 2 February 6-8 PM

DIGISCAPE PERFORMANCE 6:30 PM

### *WHAT IS REALITY IF NOT ANOTHER ILLUSION?*

onepointfiveone presents its first exhibition, *A Digiscape from reality*, by Simon Banos from Thursday 2 February through Sunday 26 February 2017. A Digiscape Performance by Banos will take place on the evening of the opening, starting from 6:30 pm, and additional performances will take place throughout the duration of the exhibition. This presentation is the first of five solo shows commissioned as part of the long-term curatorial project, onepointfiveone, taking place in the Window Space through June 2017.

In *A Digiscape from reality*, Banos presents a parallel universe, built as a digital heterotopia for mental departures created from the need to find a place to digitally root himself, a place to call 'home' after leaving his native Greece. Banos works with Chinese-speaking collaborator, Chang, to digitally create the landscape based on a conversation in which he emotionally maps out the city, reflecting on the mental photographs taken during journeys through London. By communicating his views through Google Translate he creates a window for a new world. The artist explores the relationship between the city and its inhabitants through the dialogue of two foreign citizens of London who digitally shape their identity by interacting with this unfamiliar environment. *Digiscape* celebrates the unification of the physical and digital space in our society.

Through this digiscape, Banos explores a new form of reality where viewers are welcomed to re-evaluate **their real identities, by offering them an alternative 'cyber-being,' which introduces the formation of a new hybrid identity.** Banos explores the notion of a hybrid space by experiencing the transition of the physical into a cyber-reality. **Banos's installation addresses questions of reality and illusion within the 'digispace.'** By transforming the Window Space into a hybrid space, or 'digispace,' Banos distorts the viewer's perception of reality.

### *IS IT A GREAT ESCAPE OR A FICTIONAL REALITY?*

#### SIMON BANOS

Simon Banos (b. 1989) is a Greek multimedia creative holding a degree in architecture.

Banos's work takes a socio-cultural perspective in addressing current issues of technology in art. His multimedia practice explores themes including the digital utopia and the relationship between the physical and the cyber world. Recent exhibitions include: *Imaginary Worlds*, Oriel Davies Gallery, Wales, 2017; *ME ME ME ME*, Crypt Gallery, London, 2017; *Susak Expo*, Gallerie 531, Croatia, 2016. Banos has also participated in the Greek Pavilion of the 15th International Architecture Exhibition, Venice Biennale of Architecture 2016, and has previously held the role of Designer at Bureau Betak, New York.

#### CONTRIBUTORS

Poems "Preparation for leaving" and "Home" by Anvilla El

Objects "Sunset" and "Grass" by Kelly Spanou

Video "Wind" by Kelly Spanou

## FURTHER INFORMATION

### ABOUT onepointfiveone

onepointfiveone is a long-term curatorial project based at Window Space on Whitechapel High Street taking place from January to June 2017 and born out of considerations around the physicality of space. The project develops through a series of five solo shows that challenge the idea of exhibiting artwork in a space that has limited access yet full visibility to the audience. onepointfiveone aims to open up the Window Space beyond its real depth of approximately 1.51 meters into new spaces that blur the lines between reality and illusion.

Each month, one artist reinterprets the Window Space as a layered form, questioning the multiple layers contained within a fixed depth and addressing the illusion existing beyond real and perceived dimension. Every solo show opens on the first Thursday of the month and is enriched by a public programme of commissioned performances, artist talks, and films beyond our 1.51 meters.

onepointfiveone is organised by London-based curators Caterina Avataneo, Rokhsane Hovaida, and Christina Makri.

### ABOUT THE WINDOW SPACE

The Window Space is a street-facing window gallery managed by the students of the MA Curating the Contemporary, a joint programme led by London Metropolitan University and Whitechapel Gallery. Visitors to the Window Space do not have physical access to the gallery and can only see what is on display from the street. Inducted as a temporary gallery in August 2014, the Window Space has commissioned over two dozen site-specific installations to be displayed in the window, with an opening every first Thursday of the month.

## VISITOR INFORMATION

### ADDRESS

Window Space  
Central House  
London Metropolitan University  
59-63 Whitechapel High St  
London E1 7PF  
United Kingdom

### OPENING HOURS

Open to the public 24/7

### TRANSPORT

By tube: Aldgate East station  
By bus: routes 15, 115 stop in front of the gallery; routes 25, 67, 135, 205, 254, D3 are all within walking distance

## PRESS ENQUIRIES

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

 [info@onepointfiveone.com](mailto:info@onepointfiveone.com)  
 [onepointfiveone.com](http://onepointfiveone.com)

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