

EMST

National Museum of Contemporary Art Athens

Ministry of Culture
& Sports

PRESS RELEASE

EMST OPEN

The National Museum of Contemporary Art Athens (EMST) opened its doors again and it is ready to welcome its visitors by presenting its permanent collection, exhibitions and parallel activities. After ten years from its first opening in 2000 and a really adventurous trajectory including the gradual activation of the museum's temporary exhibitions spaces in 2016 and last year's suspension of the museum's operation, EMST proceeded with the installation works regarding its permanent collection and full operation. Creating and promoting the contemporary civilization, EMST is now capable of fulfilling its important role. Inaugurating a new era, the museum will offer free admission days to its visitors from February 28th and throughout the month of March. EMST invites its visitors to participate in the formation of its brand new era at its permanent home and to make the museum their favorite place to visit.

The exhibition of the permanent collection includes 172 artworks created by 78 Greek and foreign artists which are focused on the following topics: *Memories – Claims – Political narratives, Limits and passages* and *Eterotopias – Mythology of the familiar – New perspectives*.

In -1, the Temporary Exhibitions Space hosts the exhibition entitled **EMST Open. EMST as a storyline** presenting the museum's story since it first started operating. The exhibitions along with the activities, the educational programs and its moving from space to space defined the museum's trajectory until its installation at its permanent home. The Timeline introduces again the museum's past which formed its present. For the next months, the exhibition will be framed with further parallel events.

The museum's Project Room, where new artworks and productions will be presented, hosts the **In Vitro** video-installation directed by Larissa Sansour and Soren Lind, a 28' fiction film that represented Denmark at the Venice Biennale in 2019.

Vital to EMST's creative continuity was a €3,000,000 grant from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF), announced in July 2018, which enabled completion of the works necessary for the Museum to operate to its fullest potential. This grant helped the Museum outfit its exhibition spaces and prepare and transport its permanent collection. SNF supported the procurement of essential equipment and contributed to the establishment and upgrade of various Museum spaces, including the Media Lounge, the Conservation Laboratory, the Library and Artistic Archive, and the Screening Room.

By opening its doors to a new era, EMST also changed its visual identity. Its new logo, designed by MNP company, after a restricted tender procedure had taken place, mainly refers to the unique parallelogram-shaped building that was firstly designed by the architect, Mr. Takis Zenetos. Both the building's structure and its location reveal the existence of a horizontal axis. Through its visual simplicity, it mainly aims at describing a place, a frame that cannot be aesthetically self-identified; on the contrary, each time it takes a new identity and redefines itself depending on the artworks the museum hosts.

The EMST's website is now fully updated including all information about the artworks that form the museum's collection along with their creators. At present, the collection counts about 1.300 artworks, 965 of them belonging to the field of Painting and Three-dimensional Artworks, 323 to the field of Photography and New Media, 8 to the field of Architecture and Industrial Design, all of them created by 151 Greek and 105 foreign artists.

The tender procedure related to the museum's café and restaurant that will open during March is still running.

Permanent Collections – Artists

-1

Andreas Angelidakis, Young-Hae Chang Heavy Industries, Maria Papadimitriou

Ground floor

Nikos Alexiou, Mark Hadjipateras, Young-Hae Chang Heavy Industries

1st floor

Sheung Chuen Pak, Nausica Pastra, Artemis Potamianou

2nd floor

Dimitris Alithinos, Francis Alÿs, Stephen Antonakos, Kutlug Ataman, Chronis Botsoglou, Yannis Bouteas, Adam Broomberg & Oliver Chanarin, Andrea Bowers, Vlassis Caniaris, Koken Ergun, Makis Faros, Kendel Geers, Yorgos Gyparakis, Joana Hadjithomas & Khalil Joreige, Mona Hatoum, Emily Jacir, Kostis Velonis, Nikos Kessanlis, Theodoros,sculptor, Panos Kokkinias, Dimosthenis Kokkinidis, Jannis Kounellis, George Lappas, Sheung Chuen Pak, Ilias Papailiakis, Alexandros Psychoulis, Jannis Psyshopedis, Walid Raad and the Atlas Group, Allan Sekula, Sotiris Sorogas, Aspa Stasinopoulou, Stefanos Tsvopoulos, Georgios Xenos.

3rd floor

Carl Andre, Athanasios Argianas, Dikos (Constantin) Byzantios, Chryssa, Carlos Garaicoa, Nan Goldin, Michalis Katzourakis, Yorgos Lazongas, Yannis Michas, Carlos Motta, Nikos Navridis, Shirin Neshat, Leda Papacostantinou, Rena Papaspyrou, Pavlos, Pedro Cabrita Reis, Oliver Ressler, Steve Roden, Lucas Samaras, Danae Stratou, Spencer Tunik, Costas Tsoclis, Bill Viola, Pantelis Xagoraris.

4th floor

Nikos Alexiou, Janine Antoni, Chryssa, Danil, Bia Davou, Haris Epaminonda, George Hadjimichalis, Mona Hatoum, Ilya Kabakov, Niki Kanagini, Kimsooja, Nina Papaconstantinou, Rena Papaspyrou, Zafos Xagoraris.



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