2005 | Ο Ξενόφερτος μέσα και έξω από τα Πλαίσιά του - Εμφάνιση και Παρουσία σε Πραγματικούς και Εικονικούς Χώρους [Α] [ΤΠΕ] [ΕΠ] [ΔΧ] [ΕΔ] [Φ] [ΕΧ] [Σμχ] [Κ] [Παρ] - 2005 | The Outsider In and Out of Context – Appearance and Presence in Actual and Virtual Places [Ι] [SS] [ΕΙ] [PS] [PA] [Ph] [IS] [PP] [Τ] [Pre]





Στιγμιότυπα από τις δράσεις ρόλων στους χώρους δουλειάς | Snapshots of the action-performances in the workplaces' roles



Το βασικό ερώτημα του έργου: Σε ποιόν ανήκει αυτή η πόλη [Wessen Stadt Ist Das?] | The main question of the project: Who owns this town [Wessen Stadt Ist Das?]



Οι αφίσες του project στους δημόσιους χώρους της Βαϊμάρης, στις κολώνες Lietfaßsäulle, όπου αναρτώνται διαφημίσεις για την ανακοίνωση πολιτιστικών γεγονότων | The posters of the project in the public spaces in the columns Lietfaßsäulle of Weimar, where advertisements are posted to announce cultural events

Οι πρώτες σελίδες από το βιβλίο της πτυχιακής εργασίας μου με θέμα Ο Ξενόφερτος μέσα και έξω από τα Πλαίσια του - Εμφάνιση και Παρουσία σε Πραγματικούς και Εικονικούς Χώρους | The first pages of my thesis book on The Outsider in and out of its Context - Appearance and Presence in Actual and Virtual Spaces



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Introduction

The theoretical position of this thesis considers mainly my interested in the results of short periods of residence in foreign countries and cultures. Questioning artistic identity, I will focus on some characteristics which influence some artistic prototypes, and hence of the contemporary art-making. I want to emphasize on the contradictions of different experiences, which influence the life of the contemporary artist/researcher/traveler, created through such circumstances. Therefore, I will indicate a way of how an "outsider" tries to create common ground, or, interact with public space, which becomes his environment. I will give further references to the contemporary language of image representation, which creates a universal, nomadic code of understanding. I will juxtapose and compare the virtual space and the physical place, threading them together, within the context of contemporary, spatial, and international politics.

I will present here my topic taking the position of a specific kind of *outsider* within a social structure and community. I will approach the topic from this point of view, as experienced also through personal anxieties, both existential and materialistic. Being on the move since some years, changing environments constantly, I want to present some thoughts I developed throughout this time. I also see this as a sequel to my previous thesis, "The transformation of the artistic identity in its environmental diversities", a critical reflection on Miwon Kwon's "One Place after Another, Site-Specific Art and locational identity". In this critical position I presented the "RADAR Project-Connecting Europe" as a paradigm.

I will point out some of the areas of interest for my exploration: 1. The passage to post-modernity, 2. Individuality, and subjectivity, 3. Language, image, code and symbolism, as expressed in advertising, 4. Networking, and communication, 5. Art and politics.

In my opinion, not only these topics are directly connected to each another, but also they blend and mingle together. I will focus and give references to specific points representing the subjects of employment, travelling, and education.

I set myself in a place in which all of these things are happening. Positioning myself on a district, I understand I am becoming a member of a global city (Athens, Chicago, Berlin, Venice, Weimar). How is this global city represented and to whom? According to Saskia Sassen "The global city is a border zone where old spatialities and temporalities of the national and the new ones of the global digital age get engaged". ²

¹ For analytical information about the "RADAR Project-Connecting Europe" go to: www.radarlab.net

⁵ The Global City: The De-nationalizing of Time and Space, p. 27, Saskia Sassen, Internationalism and Other, Modernist Alytha, Thesis, Wissenschaftliche Zeitschrift der Bouhaus-Universitaet Weimar, (2000) Hoft 4/5.

Which roles do institutions, academies, businesses & corporations, and finally, networks & communication systems play in it? To whom, does this *global city* belong? What is the emotional contact created between members of international cultures?

Second, I question what is tourism but an industry for creating cultural economic capital? Does tourism stand as a cultural value? Is tourism an educational practice? What is the role of the international artist in connection to all of these points? Most importantly, how does visual representation function as artistic means of communication and interaction in public space? Is it all influenced by the new global economy, or, does it all happen for the sake of humanity? Where does the notion of democracy stand in between all these factors? Though I am not able to answer to these questions representing universal problems, I will at least try to present some of their important aspects.

Seeing the theme from all of these various perspectives, my first aim was to approach the specifics of a local, social and cultural structure, broadening my artistic point of view. I started on thinking about the multiplicity of my subject. I wondered how I should point out some of the perplexities of human behavior, focusing on the exception of a person who functions as a catalyst within a social structure, and finally pointing on the idea of how to formulate public space. The issue is of how I connect art with politics & space? How should I plan a good strategy to realize this action?

I built up a strategy of complexes for a micro-macro perspective, to grasp the totality of my surrounding. Practically I reduced this strategy to a tactic of practice in everyday life, within the form of an art project.

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Μερικά από τα poster που παρήχθησαν κατά την διάρκεια του project | Some of the posters produced during the project

2005 | Ο Ξενόφερτος μέσα και έξω από τα Πλαίσιά του - Εμφάνιση και Παρουσία σε Πραγματικούς και Εικονικούς Χώρους [Α] [ΤΠΕ] [ΕΠ] [ΔΧ] [ΕΔ] [Φ] [ΕΧ] [Σμχ] [Κ] [Παρ]

Ατομικά σχεδιασμένο, τοπικά προσδιορισμένο έργο, εφήμερη παρέμβαση στον δημόσιο χώρο. Πρόκειται για ένα εικαστικό, ερευνητικό έργο, με επιτελεστικές, παραστατικές δράσεις σε χώρους εργασίας in situ, και την παραγωγή εικαστικού φωτογραφικού υλικού, ενός βιβλίου, μιας εικαστικής δικτυακής ιστοσελίδας (http://annatsouloufi-

lagiou.com/theoutsiderinandoutofcontext) και έκθεση διαφημιστικών αφισών του έργου. Η ανάρτηση των αφισών σε ειδικές κολώνες για ανακοινώσεις πολιτιστικών γεγονότων σε δημόσιους χώρους στην Βαϊμάρη (Lietfaßsäulle), αποτέλεσε μέρος του έργου. Μέγεθος κάθε αφίσας: 120 εκατοστά Χ 35 εκατοστά διάρκεια έκθεσης αφισών: Απρίλιος-Αύγουστος 2005. Η τελική παρουσίαση του όλου πρότζεκτ έγινε στο Κέντρο Τουριστικής Πληροφόρησης Γερμανία. Βαϊμάρης στην έργο πραγματοποιήθηκε ως πτυχιακή εργασία για το μεταπτυχιακό πρόγραμμα Μάστερ Καλών Τεχνών-Τέχνη στον Δημόσιο Χώρο & Νέες Καλλιτεχνικές Στρατηγικές Τμήμα Εικαστικών Τεχνών, Σχεδιασμού και Μορφοποίησης του Μπάουχάους της Βαϊμάρης (Master of Art & Design – Art in Public Space and New Artistic Strategies - Gestaltung Faculty of the Bauhaus University in Weimar).

Λέξεις και όροι κλειδιά: δια-κωδικοποίηση, μεταφορές, απασχόληση, Κοινότητα, ταυτότητα, εμφάνιση, παρουσία

($\Delta \varepsilon \zeta$ την τελική πρόταση της έρευνας στην ιστοσελίδα:http://annatsouloufi-lagiou.com/theoutsiderinandoutofcontext/)

Ζώντας στη Βαϊμάρη (Γερμανία) για κάποια χρόνια, ένα μέρος με πολύ υψηλή διαδραστικότητα μεταξύ του τοπικού και των μετακινούμενων πληθυσμών (τουριστών,

αλλοδαπών φοιτητών, προσφύγων που αναζητούν άσυλο, και άλλους), ήταν μια πολύ ενδιαφέρουσα εμπειρία. Αποφάσισα να κάνω μια έρευνα, τοποθετώντας τον εαυτό μου σ' αυτό το περιβάλλον σαν καλλιτέχνη, όχι μόνο αισθητικά αλλά και πολιτικά, σε συνδυασμό με την έρευνά μου για προσδιορισμούς της καλλιτεχνικής ταυτότητας, στο πώς αυτή εμφράζεται στο σήμερα κατά τη διάρκεια σημαντικών παγκόσμιων πολιτικών αλλαγών του παγκόσμιου χάρτη (Παγκοσμιοποίηση, Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση, μετανεωτερικότητα, κτλ.). Ένα από τα βασικά προβλήματα που διερωτώμαι σ' αυτό το έργο είναι το πώς να εφαρμόσω αφηρημένες ιδέες μέσα σ' ένα περιβάλλον ενός φυσικού χώρου, και ποιος είναι ο καλύτερος τρόπος του να δημιουργήσω δημόσιο χώρο. Δίνοντας έμφαση αντιξοότητες των διαφόρων εμπειριών δημιουργούνται κατά τη διάρκεια της ζωής ενός ανθρώπου που διαμένει εφήμερα σε διάφορα μέρη (καλλιτέχνης-ερευνητής-ταξιδιώτης), εστιάζοντας στις συνθήμες της παραγωγής τέχνης σύγχρονες κοινωνίες υπό παγκοσμιοποίησης, ξεκίνησα να πραγματοποιώ ένα έργο παίρνοντας διάφορες θέσεις υπαλλήλων, και να γίνομαι ένας πολίτης χαμαιλέοντας. Τοποθετώντας τον εαυτό μου μ' αυτόν τον τρόπο, αντάλλαξα τις θέσεις της επιτελεστικής δράσης του καλλιτέχνη με αυτή της κοινής συμπεριφοράς ενός πραγματικού πολίτη, εισχωρώντας έτσι στη καθημερινότητα της πόλης. Από την άλλη μεριά έδρασα μαζί με το εργατικό δυναμικό τους επισμέπτες και πελάτες κάθε εργατικού κέντρου. Αντιλαμβάνομαι τα μέρη που εργάστηκα ή σαν εισόδους στην πόλη, ή σαν μέρη όπου συμβαίνει μια έντονη διά-δραση μεταξύ της εντόπιας κοινωνίας και του ξένου στοιχείου. Χρησιμοποιώντας αυτό το σχήμα, αυτή τη "μηχανή" για να μεταποιήσω πρακτικά τον μου χαρακτήρα αφ' ενός, εργασιακό "εμφάνισή" μου σύμφωνα με το μοτίβο κάθε εργασιακού περιβάλλοντος είχα σαν βασικό σκοπό να:

-Εισαχθώ στην τοπική κοινότητα και να κερδίσω την εμπιστοσύνη των ανθρώπων της.

- -Ασκηθώ κατά της αποξένωσης του καλλιτέχνη από τον πραγματικό κόσμο.
- -Δράσω κατά της αποξένωσης του κοινού από τον καλλιτέχνη.
- -Αποκτήσω μια άμεση αυθεντική εμπειρία του πώς δουλεύει κάθε ειδικό λειτουργικό κέντρο της πόλης.
- -Δουλέψω στο πώς το κοινό αντιλαμβάνεται την καλλιτεχνική εργασία πέραν του προστατευμένου και θεσμοθετημένου χώρου του Μουσείου και της Γκαλερί.
- -Υποδείξω ότι οι σύγχρονοι καλλιτέχνες μετατρέπονται σε υπαλλήλους πολιτισμικών ιδρυμάτων, χάνοντας την πρωτογενή τους ιδιότητα της δημιουργικότητας.
- -Δημιουργήσω την δική μου πορεία μέσα στη πόλη σαν μια τακτική πολιτισμικής αντίστασης.

Πρακτικά, έκανα αίτηση για πρόσληψη εμπαιδευόμενου εργατικού δυναμικού κάμποσες δημόσιες υπηρεσίες και επιχειρήσεις για δύο-τρεις μέρες δουλειάς. Μεταπήδησα για σύντομο χρονικό διάστημα σε διάφορες περσόνες κοινών ανθρώπων/υπαλλήλων. Χρησιμοποίησα την κατάλληλη ενδυμασία που μου χορηγήθηκε από την ίδια την υπηρεσία. Είχα έναν βοηθό που κατέγραψε φωτογραφικά τις δράσεις. Ειδικότερα, μέσα στα πλαίσια της εφήμερης εργασίας έλαβα σύντομη εκπαίδεύση σαν 1. Κοινωνικός λειτουργός στο κέντρο ασύλου της Βαϊμάρης, 2. Υπάλληλος στο τουριστικό κέντρο της πόλης, 3. Υπάλληλος στον σιδηροδρομικό σταθμό, 4. Υπάλληλος ταχυδρομικό στο κέντρο, και σερβιτόρα στο φοιτητικό Μαγείρισσα εστιατόριο του πανεπιστημίου, 6. Πωλήτρια στην ανοιχτή αγορά, 7. Βοηθός του διευθυντή του κέντρου κατά των ακροδεξιών, και τελικά, για να ανταλλάξω υπηρεσίες με τον φωτογράφο μου, 8. Σαν βοηθός του σ' ένα γάμο.

Το αποτέλεσμα όλης αυτής της διεργασίας μορφοποιήθηκε σ' ένα πολιτισμικό-πολιτικό μήνυμα χρησιμοποιώντας το μέσο της διαφήμισης σε αφίσα, και ακόμη σε μία δικτυακή ιστοσελίδα στη διεύθυνση <u>www.artanna.net</u>. Οι

αφίσες σχεδιάστηκαν ώστε να παρουσιάζουν στιγμές από την διαδικασία του έργου και είναι εικόνες που διαδραματίζουν το άτομό μου σαν τη κύρια πρωταγωνιστική φιγούρα σε κάθε μέρος δια-δράσης, σχεδιασμένες σε συνδυασμό με την γερμανική φράση: "Wessen Stadt ist Dass?" που σημαίνει "Ποιανού είναι αυτή η πόλη;" Αυτό το καλλιτεχνικό παράγωγο κολλήθηκε σε κολώνες στον δημόσιο χώρο της πόλης και ελπίζω να λειτούργησε σαν υλικό για δημιουργία διαλόγου ανάμεσα στους πολίτες-θεατές του ευρύτερου κοινού της πόλης, όσον αφορά όχι στη πολύ-πολιτισμικότητα της πόλης τους αλλά στο δια-πολιτισμικότητα της πόλης τους αλλά στο



Κεντρική εικόνα από την δικτυακή ιστοσελίδα του έργου από το τουριστικό κέντρο της Βαϊμάρης | Central image from the website in the tourist center of Weimar



Τα πόστερ αναρτημένα σε ειδικές κολώνες (Lietfaßsäulle) για ανακοινώσεις σε δημόσιους χώρους στην Βαϊμάρη | The posters were posted on special columns for announcements in public places in Weimar, the Lietfaßsäulle







2005 | The Outsider In and Out of Context – Appearance and Presence in Actual and Virtual Places [I] [SS] [EI] [PS] [PA] [Ph] [IS] [PP] [T] [Pre]

Individually designed, locally identified work, an ephemeral intervention in public space. It is an art, research project, with performative, figurative actions in workplaces *in situ*, and the production of artistic photographic material, a book, a web site (http://annatsouloufi-

lagiou.com/theoutsiderinandoutofcontext) and an exhibition of promotional advertisements, posters of the project. The posting of the posters in special columns for announcements of cultural events in public places in Weimar (Lietfaßsäulle), was part of the project. Size of each poster: 120 cm x 35 cm poster exhibition duration: April-August 2005. The final presentation of the whole project took place at the Weimar Tourist Information Centre in Germany. The project was carried out as a graduate work for the postgraduate programme Master of Art & Design – Art in Public Space and New Artistic Strategies - Gestaltung Faculty of the Bauhaus University in Weimar.

Keywords and terms: transcoding, transport, employment, community, identity, appearance, presence

(See the final proposal and Thesis-Book of the survey on the website: http://annatsouloufilagiou.com/theoutsiderinandoutofcontext)

Emphasizing the contradictions of different experiences created during the life of a temporary dweller, focusing on the conditions of art making in contemporary societies under the circumstances of globalization, I realized a project taking different positions of employees, and becoming a chameleon citizen in Weimar. Living in Weimar, a place with a highly performed interactivity between local and "moving" populations (tourists, foreign students, Asylum-seekers, and more), is quite an interesting experience. I decided to make an

inquiry, positioning myself in this surrounding as an artist, not only aesthetically but also politically, in combination with my inquiry for definitions of artistic identity and how it is expressed nowadays (Globalization, European Community, Postmodernity, etc.). One of the basic problems I question in this project is how to apply abstract ideas within the context of a physical space, and which is the best way of creating public space. Emphasizing contradictions of different experiences created during the life of a temporary dweller (artist/researcher/traveler), and focusing on the conditions of art making in contemporary societies under the circumstances globalization, I started to realize of a project taking different positions of employees, and becoming a chameleon citizen. Placing myself in this way, I exchanged the positions of the performative action of the artist, with that of a common behavior of an actual citizen, intervening in the city's everyday life. On the other hand, I interacted with working-groups, the visitors and clients of each working center. Using this scheme, this "mechanization" for practically, transforming my job-character, my "appearance" according to the pattern of each working environment, as a purpose I basically -Enter the local community and gain the trust of the people. -Exercise against the alienation of the artist the -Act against the alienation of the public from the artist. -Have an immediate, authentic experience of how each specific functional part of this city works.

work beyond the protected and institutionalized space of the Museum and the Gallery.

-Creating my own route in the city as a cultural tactical resistance.

-Work on how the public perceives the artist's

Practically, I applied for employment to several

businesses, for two full time working days. I "jumped", temporarily, into various personae of common people/employees. I used appropriate, job-specific outfit; it was provided to me from the agencies' authorities in each place of action. Where it was not provided from the authorities, I improvised. I had an assistant for documenting the process. During the actions, I carried equipment to document the project. Specifically, I did training as, 1. A social worker in the Asylum-Seeker- Wohnheim, 2. An employee in the tourist information center of Weimar, 3. An employee in the train station, 4. An employee in the post office, 5. A cook and server at the student's restaurant, 6. A seller in the market, 7. An assistant in the "Network against the Extreme Right", and finally, to exchange labor with my photographer, 8. As his

The outcome of my inquiry is formed into a cultural/political message in using the media form of posters/advertisements. The posters are designed to present instants of the projects' process, and they are images having my person as the main protagonist figure in each place of interaction, depicted in combination with relevance to the topic text-graphics. This art product will be put in the open space, and, hopefully, will function as a stimulation, to create a dialogue between the citizen/spectators, within the broader public of the city. I perceive the places I chose to work either as Ports of Entry for the city of Weimar, or, as places where an intense interaction between the local society and the foreign takes place.



Μερικά από τα poster που παρήχθησαν κατά την διάρκεια του project | Some of the posters produced during the project



As globalism redefines our understanding of place, it simultaneously affects the pedagogical role of the institution for the public artist. Can the idealistic notions of an academic public art program absorb expanding contexts from beyond the ivory tower? Art programs worldwide share the goal of teaching students to be socially responsible, yet the art school is also the setting for students' socialization and the distillation of their personal interests. How does European education begin to frame the variety of ways and means available for the student of public art? The goal of most M.F.A. programs in the United States is not focused on the audience for art nor does it question how the work intersects culture and society. This creates a disconnect between the students' vision of artwork as a cultural practice versus a studio practice.

As nationalities and countries continually reinvent cultural identity, artists are more than ever becoming citizens of the world and students of a grand conglomerate culture. The often talked about, and often missing, "sense of place" is one of the artist's challenges in creating meaningful work in the public realm. Yet to begin the move from modernist plaza plops toward intuitive site responses, the artist needs constant encouragement to expand the horizons of the academic institution. Several academic art centers in North America offer inventive strategies for artists interested in art in public space, yet they often emulate European models of higher education. Educator and executive director of Chicago-based architreasures, Joyce Fernandes asserts that "there is a disconnect between the reality of public art in community settings and the idealistic notions of cultural production reproduced within many M.F.A. programs in the United States."

Several public art academic programs are offered in Europe: Pompeu Farba—Barcelona, Spain; Oxford-Brookes— Oxford, England; Bauhaus School—Weimar, Germany; Piet Zwart Institute—Holland. All have particular philosophies of interacting with public space; however, the Bauhaus School has an especially interesting method for helping students understand the practice of public art by understanding their role as always evolving and multidisciplinary.

Since 1919 the Bauhaus School has addressed the politics of social space by combining avant-garde notions of design and art. The institution currently offers an M.F.A. program, led by Professor Liz Bachhuber and Assistant Professor Susanne Bosch, entitled Public Art and New Artistic Strategies. This international program, taught in English and German, educates





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At 1971. Plants contract the artist. At other plants by Manual Analthic court has were printed



the artist as an evolving cultural producer. Current students represent sixteen nationalities and languages, and offer a truly global perspective on art in public space. Greek citizen Anna Lagiou-Tsouloufi, a 2005 graduate of the program, explains, Public art doesn't only expose work in a typical public setting but begins to create a dialogue and questions a concept that is exposed to the public in a new way, by reinventing public space."

The Bauhaus program includes four major fields of specialization: (a) temporary interventions in public space; (b) new media: (c) integrated art within architecture; and (d) memory, the function of memorials, and the role of the historical. The program explores artist interactions, planning and creating political debates, and the interplay between multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary art practices. It also examines the process of bringing art to an audience in unconventional ways and inspiring communities to adopt an artist's vision. Artists are not only encouraged to explore public space but also to redecipher current trends in the art world, enabling them to invent new approaches to public art.

2004 Bauhaus graduate Peer Olivier Nau focused on bridging design and public space; this has led him to create unconventional performative works outside the gallery. He says, "Design and art in public space creates exchanges with people and their experiences; the viewer is confronted with your concept in unexpected ways. In design the aim is to find a perfect form for a specific problem. In combining both genres you grapple with the daily lives of people and the hope for a connection that can begin to transcend."

The emerging Bauhaus philosophy of new artistic strateges is an evolving support mechanism for artists who incurporate philosophical, multidisciplinary, and experimental art practices into a public space. Lagiou-Tsouloufi's thesis project was an investigative performance that involved volunteering skills and services to public and private agencies over a twoday period. She says, "The places I chose to work were places where an intense interaction between the local society and

OPPOSITE PAGE FAR LEFT: Peer Oliver Nov., installation at Ernst-Abbe Plats, Jin Germany, Located at the betwicel garden at the University of Jens to colebrate the 200th hirthday of Serman author Friedrich Schiller.

OPPOSITE PAGE RIGHT: One of Arms Lapino-Routend's protons for Messay Book or dis? (Whose Dily to 75th?), 2005, on the Lietfaffabule at Coethepiotz, Weimar, Germony. TOP and BOTTOM: Jone Lagiou-Touloufi, Am Markelstz: working at a Mediterraneur delicetesses: Force Behaluf: working in the information Seoth at the main train station of Weimar. Posters comiat of panoramic documentation of the artist's actions in situ.

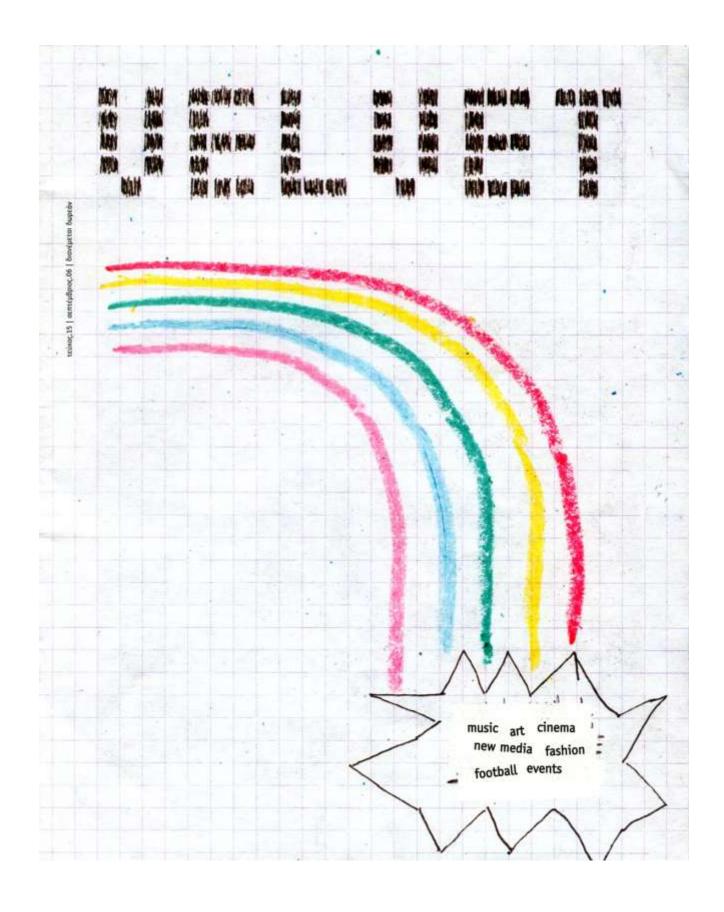
the foreign immigrant element takes place on a daily basis." The outcome of the inquiry was formed into a theoretical text and public posters with the logo "Whose city is this?" (Wessen Stadt ist das?), as well as a website that was publicized through a handbill campaign. By targeting specific locales, Lagiou-Tsouloufi was able to converse, educate, and learn through first-hand dialogue, as well as formulate a personal vision in a variety of public spaces outside the conventional public art arena.

As Lucy Lippard writes in Moving Turgets/Moving Out, The great and still elusive questions surrounding public art are: Which public? And is there an exchange between art and audience?" These questions lead to an expanding vision of public art whose pedagogy in the academic realm shapes artists and fosters meaningful work in this arena. Presenting and inventing new strategies of work is crucial as the artist's role evolves and changes conceptions of art in the public domain. How can American academia include such explorations of space and public interests? Is a successful artist one who honors concepts and connections to others in public space or one steeped in idealism and convention? The evolution of art in public space is one ripe for invention, as artists take a leading role with meaningful and socially conscious work.

STUART KEELER is an artist dedicated to exploring the context of art in public spaces.



Άρθρο του καλλιτέχνη Stuart Keeler για το έργο μου στο αμερικανικό περιοδικό για την τέχνη στον δημόσιο χώρο Public Art Review 2006 #34 | Artist Stuart Keeler's article on my work in the American journal for art in public space Public Art Review 2006 #34





Δημοσίευση με αναφορά στην ιστοσελίδα του έργου στο ελληνικό περιοδικό τέχνης Velvet #15 Σεπτ. 2006 | Publication with reference to the project's website in the Greek art magazine Velvet #15 Sept. 2006