

Mimosa House

Georgia Sagri

IASI

15 February - 2 May 2020

Mimosa House is currently hosting *IASI* ("recovery" in Greek) - the ongoing research practice of artist Georgia Sagri (b. 1979, Athens). Expanding on over 10 years of research into self care and recovery, Sagri conducted private one-to-one sessions with participants, based on voice tuning, breathing and movement techniques. The sessions took place on the first floor of Mimosa House using a specially constructed sculptural object, titled "*Stage of Recovery*".

On the basis of these sessions, the artist has produced a series of drawings that she calls 'visual imprints' - mapping a sensorial memory of the treatments. As the culmination of the research phase, Sagri performed *Breathing 5-1-5* at Mimosa House, presenting one of her breathing techniques, a video of which is currently on view.

Sagri's collaboration with Mimosa House is her first institutional exhibition in the UK, which is also the inauguration of her research practice *IASI*, and her long-term commitment to working directly with the public. *IASI* will later develop at two further institutions, Tavros and Hyle in Athens, and De Appel in Amsterdam.

Curator, Daria Khan: "*Georgia Sagri's IASI brings a unique and new opportunity to Mimosa House: to explore the impact of artistic practice on the public, as well as to ask wider questions about artist labour, self-care and pathologies of our time. IASI is an experiment in establishing in-depth collaboration with individual members of the audience, through a process of sharing knowledge and bodily practice which have a long lasting effect beyond the exhibition's timeframe and space.*"

Artist, Georgia Sagri: *[..Some voices, which means some bodies, are under shock; by altering the resonance of the voice, the body starts to vibrate differently, so some of the organs that they are in pain will start to recuperate. The character of one-to-one practice allows experimentation to grow on a stage, the "Stage of Recovery", designed to provide a soft space for the purpose of the research only, where unique sessions take place. The nature of the research itself distinguishes research-creation from more conventional, tried-and-tested methodologies. Moving away from the spectacle and the event-based structure allows me to build upon an ongoing practice, where the word treatment derives. The treatments shape the practice, that is IASI (recovery), through an ongoing creative process. The "Stage of Recovery" will be built in different places where the treatments take place: Mimosa House in London, TAVROS and Ὑλη[matter]HYLE in Athens and De Appel in Amsterdam.*

Each treatment is a private one-to-one encounter that builds the content of the research safeguarding personal anonymity. Putting the treatments on the stage – on what was the topos (site) of the theatre, where the construction of the social definitions took place – I aim through this practice to release social roles and behavioural self-policing. This intimate technique of observation happens with the training of the voice. I am interested, in opposition to psychoanalysis, in how the voice sounds, and not in what it says. With smooth training, I follow and support each participant to tune differently as well as to experience another interiority of their body and through that tuning to become physically stronger and better. Each of the participants learns from their physical state and find movements and perhaps even a new voice that will possibly allow them to self-recover...]

Georgia Sagri was in conversation with institutional allies Daria Khan (Mimosa House), Maria-Thalia Carras (TAVROS) and Monika Szewczyk (De Appel), on Friday 14th February.

Georgia Sagri presented *Breathing (5-1-5)*, performance, 30', on Thursday 5th March at 6.30pm. The documentation of the performance is currently on view at Mimosa House.

Bio:

Georgia Sagri (b. 1979, Athens) lives and works in Athens and New York. At the centre of her practice lies an exploration of performance as an ever-evolving field within social and visual life. Much of her work is influenced by her ongoing engagement in political movements and struggles, regarding issues of autonomy, empowerment and self-organisation. Georgia Sagri has exhibited internationally in various solo and group exhibitions: Portikus, Frankfurt/ Main, Germany (2018); Kunstverein Braunschweig, Germany (2017, 2018); Cycladic Museum, Athens Greece (2017); Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw, Poland (2016); Sculpture Center, New York, USA (2016); KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin, Germany (2016, 2015); Forde, Geneva, Switzerland (2015); Kunsthalle Basel Switzerland (2014); MoMA PS1, New York, USA (2013); Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw, Poland (2013); Guggenheim Bilbao, Spain (2011); MoMA, New York, USA (2011); Macedonian Museum, Thessaloniki, Greece (2011); The Dakis Joannou Collection, DESTE Foundation, Athens, Greece (2006). Sagri has also participated in documenta 14 (2017), Manifesta 11 (2016), Istanbul; Biennial (2015), Lyon Biennial (2013), Whitney Biennial (2012), Thessaloniki Biennial (2011), and Athens Biennial (2007). In 2014 Sagri initiated Ὕλη[matter]HYLE (hyle.gr) a semi-public/semi-private space in the center of Athens, Greece. Her first monograph catalogue was published by Sternberg Press, following her solo exhibitions Georgia Sagri Georgia Sagri at Kunstverein Braunschweig, and Georgia Sagri and I at Portikus. In the summer of 2019 she was offered the Tenure Position in the School of Fine Arts in Athens in order to organise and run the first Performance Art studio.