

Cundu Luna Vini: The producers

Sylvia Kouvali, *Piraeus*
May 2025

Under the umbrella of the theatrical, Sylvia Kouvali marks its twentieth anniversary (2027), via a program of exhibitions that begin in May 2026 and will conclude on the late months of 2028.

The cycle Cundu Luna Vini : The Producers will include a series of solo exhibitions of artists the gallery represents, alongside exhibitions and other projects put together in collaboration with curators, writers, collaborators, artists and friends of the gallery.

Dance and theatre, film and performance, sound and language, architecture and the ruin, costumes and characters have been central to the gallery and the artists it represents since its conception.

Installations as sets while exhibitions as wholes and relationships the artists form through the dramaturgy the artists create through their various practises, whether sculpture, video and film, painting or performance.

If one can speak in such terms, a common denominator, or what keeps this list of artists together is the spirit of mystery and the stage within which this is taking place.

Theatricality, through the prism of directing and producing atmospherics is what generates space.

The gallery space functions as a medium, an active field, within which we channel messages and ideas that aesthetically, hence ethically, reflect the spirit of our times.

An effort to put together and frame an ever-becoming program that has slowly and selectively been built through the past twenty years with instinct and care.

The body is and will be central.

Also central is its absence and its suggested presence.

Theatre and its mechanics, its suggestions, its implications and the endless manifestations, compose a big part of the gallery's exhibitions, since its making, as manifestations of some sort of mysteries.

The various architectonics the spaces within which the gallery has been housed over the period of two decades, were in some way stages, waiting to be activated by the artists and their works, their installations and the viewers.

Taking as a foundation the iconic architectural drawing inserted in the Piraeus space by *Etienne Desdoux* in 2008, Michael Kleine develops a new route that will serve the needs the gallery, while shaping a new era for the years to follow.

The new entrance of the gallery from Mavromichali Street, a road directly connected to the port, will allow for a new experience of the exhibitions.

The entrance will house a new bookshop.

The titles of all the books available or sale in the shop have been selected by the artists on view at this moment and in parallel a growing catalogue by the rest of the artists that will keep unravelling. Alongside these, there will be artists' monographs of the gallery's program and museum catalogues, biennials, in parallel with special presentations of books.

A newly designed space on the left side of Gallery II is created in the spirit of *studiolo*, where the rhythm will be different from the main exhibitions. The exhibitions and presentations there will be based on experimentation and freed from a rigid exhibition program. In this space curators, artists and friends will transform ideas to shows freely.

The online space of the gallery www.courtyard.space will be activated at times as a transmitter while also as an extended exhibition space that exists only online.

Enfilade (May 19 - June 13)

Starting May 19, the architecture of the gallery will be re-conceived by scenographer and visual artist Michael Kleine, whose solo exhibition *Enfilade*, will prologue the cycle, while marking the gallery's representation of the artist.

Kleine's work stems from scenography and while he employs methodologies of the operatic and dramaturgy in his work as a space designer and a visual artist, individual sculptures emerge that have a surreal almost liturgical aspects, as they are dependent to the mystery he's choreographed for each space.

These sculptures, most appropriated objects that get to be embedded in the space for the sake of dramaturgy operate as mood regulators; they are sometimes personal objects from the artist's personal archive, family trophies that come back to life as textures, and sometimes they are remnants from theatre storages and formally edited become again.

Natural and artificial light coexist as characters in a play.

Portraits (May 19 - June 13)

In the *studiolo*, three texts by Efthimis Filippou, are framed and hung in a classic manner on the main wall.

Through these texts, autonomous from one another, written in raw style that characterizes him, unfolds a very personal web of people.

2026

Michael Kleine, Guglielmo Castelli, Stella Zong and Apostolos Georgiou and will coincide with smaller shows by Efthimis Filippou, Thanassis Totsikas and Tamara Henderson.