



ALMA ENTERPRISES

PRESS RELEASE

# my still life as a personal object

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Nick Goulis | Yu-Chen Wang | Andro Semeiko |  
David Blandy | Lakis and Aris Ionas

**9 November - 16 December 2007**

Opening Night: Thursday 8 November, 6-9pm (performance 8pm)

Gallery Opening Times: Friday - Sunday, 12noon - 6pm  
(Thursday 6 December 6-9pm as part of First Thursdays)

Curated by [BasementArtProject.com](http://BasementArtProject.com)

The exhibition links up the concept of still life as an art form and the use of collecting and recreating objects in contemporary artists' practice. Here the objects include merely inanimate or commonplace objects, as well as abstract concepts of objects such as fictional characters or someone's dreams.

The artist creates his own universe of symbolic meaning. He finds his private world of perception through various objects and discerns his own 'self' attached/ projected upon them. The artist becomes the object of his work. Like **Nick Goulis'** monologue is transformed into solid chunks of text juxtaposing the 80s computer game products which he often associates with the "gateways to the hidden techno-universe. Without any words, **Yu-Chen Wang's** pictorial fiction is like never-ending stories of her obsession and indulgence.

The artist shifts his standpoint to see himself from others' perspective, and sometimes even changes the voice from the first person to the third person. The personal response of the self is opened up in the social realm so the private meaning of the self becomes a shared one. The self is in both individual and social contexts. **Andro Semeiko** transforms his fascination with personal mundane objects into a world of idealism and space-travel.

**David Blandy** searches for the true 'soul' and the invisible distance between the real life and exploratory world. **Lakis and Aris Ionas** operate dual identities through their two-man rock band, The Callas, projecting themselves onto the super-hero character and the fictional fan club.

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BasementArtProject.com is a contemporary art network led by London-based artist, Yu-Chen Wang, with a group of artists, curators and researchers. BasementArtProject.com collaborates with international artists to develop progressive work and organises events and exhibitions in various venues across the UK and Europe. For further information please contact Yu-Chen on 07900662781 or email [info@BasementArtProject.com](mailto:info@BasementArtProject.com) [www.BasementArtProject.com](http://www.BasementArtProject.com)

**Nick Goulis** (b. 1976 Corfu, Greece) lives and works in Athens. Goulis received BA at the School of Fine and Applied Arts in Thessaloniki, Greece (2001) and MFA in Fine Art at the Sandberg Institute, Amsterdam (2006). He has shown in Greece, the Netherlands, Italy and the UK, including recent solo shows, Sorry H8tters, Athanassiadou Art Advice (AAA), Athens (2007); I hope I won't die poor (2006) and not so famous (2005), Gallery De Praktijk, Amsterdam. He has taken part in several group exhibitions, such as Two Hopes, Tbilisi Opera and Ballet Theatre, Georgia; New Life and the Dream Garden, Fieldgate Gallery, London; Part Time Punks, Deste Foundation, Athens (2007) and Art Rotterdam, the Netherlands (2006).

**Yu-Chen Wang** (b.1978 Taiwan) lives and works in London. Wang studied at Goldsmiths College (2000-01) and Chelsea College of Art and Design (2001-02). She has exhibited internationally, including tent. Podion Gallery, Amsterdam; Tank.TV, ICA, London (2004); Caution, Uneven Surfaces, temporarycontemporary, London (2004); Synch Festival in Athens (2005); Darklight Film Festival in Dublin (2006); BBC Big Screen, Manchester (curated by Cornerhouse 2006/07); Archipeinture: Moving in Architecture, Camden Arts Centre, London and Curzon Soho, London (2006); Satellite Works/Oeuvres Satellites, Galerie La Centrale, Montreal and Galerie L'Oeil de Poisson, Quebec City, Canada; Saison Vidéo 2007, FRAC Nord-Pas de Calais, France; New Life and the Dream Garden, Fieldgate Gallery, London; Two Hopes, Tbilisi Opera and Ballet Theatre, Georgia (2007).

**Andro Semeiko** (b.1975 Ozurgeti, Georgia) lives and works in London. Semeiko studied at Tbilisi State Academy of Fine Arts (Tbilisi, 1998), Utrecht School of the Arts (Utrecht, 2000), Goldsmiths College (London, 2001) and the Royal Academy of Arts (London, 2006). He has exhibited in New Contemporaries 2001, Camden Arts Centre and Sunderland Museum (London-Sunderland, 2001) and Shine, The Lowry Gallery (Manchester, 2002). In 2007 his work has been exhibited in Beauty Unrealized, PSWAR (Amsterdam); Celeste Art Prize 07, Truman Brewery (London); New Life and the Dream Garden, Fieldgate Gallery (London); Sotheby's/RAS Auction (London) and The Juddyses, John Jones (London). He has received the Kunstanjer 2000, Prince Bernard Culture Prize (the Netherlands) and British Institution Prize 2004 (London).

**David Blandy** (b. 1976 London) lives and works in London, using video, performance and comics to address how identity is constructed. A recipient of an Artsadmin Artists' Bursary, Blandy has exhibited widely both in the UK and abroad at venues such as at Gasworks, London; FACT, Liverpool; PS1 Gallery, New York; and the Centre d'art Contemporain, Geneva. Blandy has had solo shows at Cell Project Space in London early in 2007 as part of Jerwood Artist Platform, and at Platform China's 798 Project Space in Beijing. Blandy's video work is distributed by LUX: [www.lux.org.uk](http://www.lux.org.uk) and was supported by an Artsadmin Live Arts Bursary 2005-2006.

**Lakis** (b.1974 Athens) and **Aris** (b.1975 Athens) **Ionas** live and work in Athens. Lakis, Aris and Ionas are brothers. They studied at Chelsea College of Art and Design, London (MA in Fine Art 2001-02). They have exhibited across the UK and Europe, including Destroy Athens, 1st Athens Biennial, Athens; The Callas live at Resonance FM, London; New Life and the Dream Garden, Fieldgate Gallery, London (2007); Contemporary Traditions, Bios, Athens; Sequence, the Space, London (2006) and de Roode Bioscoop, Amsterdam (2005); The Callas - Superman Died Yesterday, the Breeder Gallery, Athens (2004); Euroscreen PAN Kunst Forum, Emmerich, Germany; 11th Biennale of Young Artists of Europe and the Mediterranean, Athens; Charlie's Place, Annely Juda Fine Art, London (2003); the London Institute Gallery (nominated for the Red Mansion Spero Prize), London (2002). They have recently curated Part Time Punks at DESTE Foundation (the project was selected by DESTE Foundation in collaboration with Deitch Projects and the Wrong Gallery.) They are the editors and directors of VELVET magazine and Athens Contemporary Art Map.