

**THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART PRESENTS SITE-SPECIFIC VIDEO
AND SCULPTURAL INSTALLATION BY HARIS EPAMINONDA**

First U.S. Solo Exhibition for the Artist

Projects 96: Haris Epaminonda

November 17, 2011–February 20, 2012

Contemporary Galleries, second floor

New York, October 12, 2011—The Museum of Modern Art presents the first solo exhibition in the United States of Berlin-based artist Haris Epaminonda (b. 1980, Nicosia, Cyprus). *Projects 96: Haris Epaminonda* is on view November 17, 2011 through February 20, 2012.

Epaminonda is internationally known for her photographic assemblages constructed from found books and magazines of the 1960s, and for her video installations, in which television footage culled from Greek soap operas that she used to watch as a child on Sunday afternoons in Cyprus, are reshot and re-edited in new sequences, creating a web of elusive associations. This exhibition presents Epaminonda's three-channel video installation *Tarahi III, V, VI* (2007), part of an ongoing series that enlists the use of reverse shooting, montage, cuts, superimposition, and repetition of motifs to address the permeability of memory.

"*Tarahi* translates from Greek as 'turmoil,'" explains Roxana Marcoci, Curator, Department of Photography, The Museum of Modern Art, "and through the artist's use of ellipsis, narrative ruptures, collage, experimentation with intensified colors, and disjunctive film speeds, the work is invested with surreal appeal."

A woman facing the theatrical folds of a stage curtain, a couple strolling backwards on a sun-drenched path, a pomaded man with a microphone looking to the sky while a firework appears on his face, a bleached-out sun overtaking the image; these are just a few of the eerie images in Epaminonda's *Tarahi* videos.

A single soundtrack of piano chords culled from *Sonata No. 10* by Russian composer Alexander Skrjabin provides the acoustic link between the three alternating video projections. Favoring a slowed-down, filmic flow and lush colors, these enigmatic videos are presented in the context of sculptural and architectural structures—antique statuettes, vases, columns, pedestals, and niches—in an all-encompassing installation specifically conceived for MoMA, the overall effect being that of a three-dimensional audio-visual collage in the gallery.

Projects 96 is organized by Roxana Marcoci, Curator, Department of Photography, The Museum of Modern Art. The Elaine Dannheisser Projects series is coordinated by Kathy Halbreich, Associate Director, The Museum of Modern Art. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Projects series, which has played a critical part in the Museum's contemporary programs.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Epaminonda lives and works in Berlin. She studied at the Chelsea College of Art & Design, at Kingston University, and received an MA at the Royal College of Art in London in 2003. Her work has been shown at solo exhibitions at the Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt, Germany (2011), Tate Modern, London (2010), Malmö Konsthall, Malmö (2009); and Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin (2008). Her work has also been shown in such group exhibitions at the Sharjah Biennial (2009), Athens Biennale (2009), New Museum, New York (2009), Mori Art Museum, Tokyo (2009), Berlin Biennale (2008), Venice Biennale (2007), and Macao Museum of Art, China (2006).

ABOUT THE CURATOR

Roxana Marcoci, Curator, Department of Photography, joined the Museum in 1999. She has organized many exhibitions at MoMA, including the upcoming *Sanja Iveković: Sweet Violence* and the recent *The Original Copy: Photography of Sculpture, 1839 to Today* (2010).

ABOUT THE ELAINE DANNHEISSER PROJECTS SERIES

Marking its 40th year, the Elaine Dannheisser Projects series was created in 1971 as a forum for emerging artists and new art and plays a vital part in MoMA's contemporary art programs. With exhibitions organized by curators from all of the Museum's curatorial departments, the series has presented the work of over 200 artists to date. For further information on the series, including a listing of all Projects artists, please visit MoMA.org/projects.

SPONSORSHIP

The Elaine Dannheisser Projects Series is made possible in part by The Junior Associates of The Museum of Modern Art.

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For downloadable high-resolution images, register at MoMA.org/press.

Public Information:

The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, NY 10019, (212) 708-9400, MoMA.org

Hours: Wednesday through Monday, 10:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Friday, 10:30 a.m.–8:00 p.m. Closed Tuesday

Museum Admission: \$25 adults; \$18 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D.; \$14 full-time students with current I.D. Free, members and children 16 and under. (Includes admittance to Museum galleries and film programs). Tickets can be purchase [online](#) at a reduced rate of: \$22.50 adults; \$16 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D.; \$12 full-time students with current I.D.

Target Free Friday Nights 4:00–8:00 p.m.

Film Admission: \$12 adults; \$10 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D. \$8 full-time students with current I.D. (For admittance to film programs only)

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