

**ENG**

**The objects look at us**

**Maria Loizidou**

**28/06 | 19:00-21:00 | Minerva Hotel - Platres**

As part of the exhibition *Newcomers* at the Minerva Hotel in Platres, Maria Loizidou invites us to engage in parallel experiences with art. Following her recent performance *What happens to me is written up there*, held last month at the Rialto Theatre, she now proposes *The objects look at us*.

This new performance is grounded in the experience of a parallel relationship with the objects in the exhibition, one that revolves around our desire to own them.

*..In Newcomers, the objects, small-scale works, are presented in a unique manner. They do not assert nor occupy space; they open it. Within them lies a profound reflection on the dilemmas of modern life: displacement, exclusion, and the longing for recognition...\**

In the exhibition, Loizidou arranges objects not as static displays but as presences. Their recognition unfolds through a paradoxical gaze, the gaze that meets our own. These objects look back at us, inviting us in. As we look, they begin to take shape within the space of our own longing.

Loizidou draws a distinct line between desire and need. These are not transactional objects. They represent something deeper: a psychic necessity, an emotional longing. Each piece becomes a vessel of memory, intention, and presence.

The exhibition forms an ensemble; a gathering of objects that evokes a shared sense of space, history, and belonging. Yet within this collective, moments of intimacy emerge: an object reaches out, forms a silent bond, and carves out space for a personal encounter.

Each object asserts its autonomy. Each small work becomes a point of renewal, part of the artist's and her collaborators' "economy of survival." Loizidou navigates the often-neglected dimension of art: the management of the object, the small work, which, when stored away and removed from view, is deprived of its connection to the world.

This performance is an open invitation. Visitors are welcome to join a guided tour of the exhibition, enjoy refreshments in the courtyard of the Minerva Hotel, listen to a reading on the history of small works, and, if they wish, participate in an auction where selected pieces may be acquired.

*\*Excerpt from the exhibition text by Alexandra Landré, Artistic Director of Stroom Den Hague)*

Performance by: Loukia Pieridou

Facilitators: Belinda Papavasiliou, Ioli Kaskani, Christos Loizou, Maria Papageorgiou

Duration: 2 hours