



DET
DANSKE
INSTITUT
I ATHEN

ΙΝΣΤΙΤΟΥΤΟ ΤΗΣ ΔΑΝΙΑΣ ΣΤΗΝ ΑΘΗΝΑ



The Danish Institute at Athens and the Embassy of Denmark, Greece are pleased to invite you to a Performance Symposium by Danish Artist & Thinker Helene Lundbye Petersen

“Mythology of Our Current Condition of Life – Greece”

Wednesday the 4th of July at 18.00



Helene Lundbye Petersen, *Space of Wisdom Temple of Hephaestus and Athena at the Foot of the Acropolis*, 2018.

© Helene Lundbye Petersen / Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports.

Danish Artist & Thinker Helene Lundbye Petersen works from the premise that we are faced with a new human condition. We're more people than ever before, brought closer together than ever before, and crises have arisen because we haven't figured out how to live together yet. She has spent the last seven years creating a series of 11 handwritten books titled *Colour Spectrum of 11 Spaces* wherein 11 existential themes are each tied to a Colour. This series inspires a new foundation for being human by reminding us of the universal language of being which connects us rather than dividing us.

Lundbye Petersen is now unfolding this philosophical artwork in relation to iconic sites around the world. She aims to highlight the wisdom of these places and use her art to show that the 11 coloured Spaces are not new, but have always been present.

Ancient Greece plays an essential role in understanding culture and politics in the Western world. In Helene Lundbye Petersen's latest series of works, she wishes to reinvigorate some of Greece's most mythic sites and explore their philosophical meaning. She has focused on the sub-series in *Colour Spectrum of 11 Spaces* named *Mythology of Our Current Condition of Life* in which five Goddesses each stand for one aspect of human existence. The artist performed one of these five books for each of the ancient locations.

The Blue Book - Ode to Wisdom was performed for the Temple of Hephaestus and Athena at the foot of the Acropolis.

The Orange Book - Ode to Pleasure was performed for the Davelis Cave of Pan at Mount Penteli.

The Red Book - Ode to Battle was performed for the Panathenaic Olympic Stadium in Athens.

The Green Book - Ode to Love was performed for the coast below the Temple of Poseidon at Sounio.

The Yellow Book - Ode to Balance was performed for the Temple of Apollo at Delphi.

These performances were captured in a series of 'Spatial Portraits' that seek to manifest existential connections between antiquity and contemporaneity, inviting audiences to reconsider the relevance of these well-known spaces and discover their wisdom anew.

As an ode to the symposia of Greek antiquity, an exhibition of these Spatial Portraits will take place as part of a Performance Symposium. The evening will begin with Lundbye Petersen performing the opening chapters from her five books and exhibiting the Spatial Portrait series. Afterwards the Symposium will culminate in a dialogue, engaging experts from the fields of archaeology, mythology, and classical art to generate new knowledge. The evening's speakers will include:

Jenifer Niels, Ph.D.
Director of the American School of Classical Studies

Kristina Winther-Jacobsen, Ph.D.
Director of the Danish Institute at Athens

Nektarios Yioutsos, Ph.D.
Post-Doctoral Researcher at the University of Athens

RSVP to birgit.olsen@diathens.gr and please specify if you will bring additional guests, as seating is limited. Doors will open at 18.00. Please be advised that the doors will be closed at 18.30.

More on the artist and her work can be found at helenelundbyepetersen.com and whitepageproject.com.