Little Islands Festival | Living Environments



Contemporary creation, new art forms, unexpected locations:

Little Islands Festival explores and creates new worlds and suggests alternative ways of viewing art and life.

With a view to connecting the Aegean landscape to contemporary creation and the power of new media, **Little Islands Festival is experimenting at the crossroads of cultural heritage and innovation** and proposes an open space where we can meet and interact, a summer festival that takes the viewer on an exciting audiovisual journey.

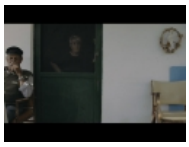
The third LIF under the title ?Living Environments | ???????????? ?????????" returns to the island of Sikinos from **the 20th to the 23rd of August** and transforms the labyrinthine public space of the Cycladic settlement into an ideal setting with outdoor screenings, exhibitions and installations. Abandoned buildings, shelters/sheds, windmills, cliffs and cobbled alleys, the traditional architectural lines are reinvented in a new performative/representational idiom, a metaphorical landscape symbolizing the **link** between human habitation and the natural environment.

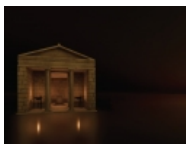
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More than 60 art projects from 30 countries **appropriate** the public space of the settlement and propose new interpretations and correlations to the traditional element in search of a contemporary social landscape where the limits of art, nature, life are intertwined and fuel each other by weaving an active thread of dialogue with the past. **Documentaries, short films, video art, animation, audiovisual performances and installations, live 3D mapping and VR, offer a new touring experience** conveying ideas, images and experiences.

In the context of the topic ?Living Environments | ???????????? ??????????, LIF also presents original **site-specific** project assignments, discussions with the artists, **interactive workshops for children** and **alternative guided tours** at Sikinos cultural heritage sites.

What we are going to see at the Little Islands Festival

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Open-Air Screenings

The main screening schedule includes short length and feature-length documentaries that explore the daily routines and rituals of the island life. Following the screenings, open discussions with the directors spark a fruitful public dialogue.

A section of recently produced short films that are conceptually related to the topic "Living Environments", contemporary video art and award-winning animation for both children and adults are shown in iconic locations of the traditional settlement of Kastro and reflect their own perspective on the man-made and natural environment.

Audiovisual Performances

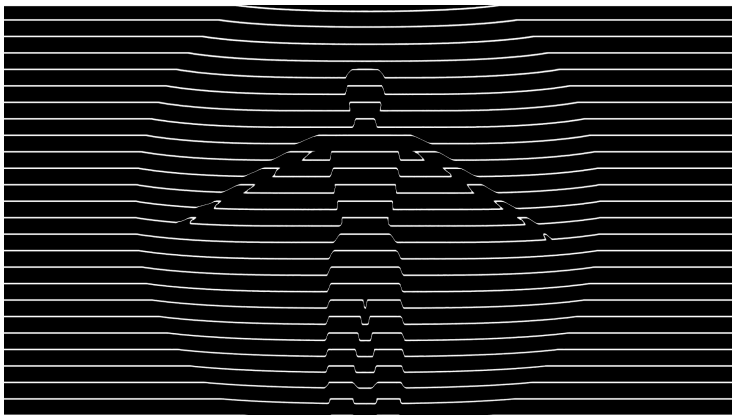
LIF 2021 hosts a wide range of audiovisual performances by Greek and foreign artists who interact with the specific architectural features of the site:

On the opening night of the Festival, the site-specific audiovisual installation ATLANTIS will be presented by the cinematographers Vicky Markolefa and Bastian Fischer (Mind the Bump). The two artists are mapping and surveying the underwater environment of Sikinos and turn the ruins of a Cycladic house into an underwater place inviting us to discover its secrets.

Director and performer Marine Midy introduces herself with the "aquatic" project **AQUA VITAE** that explores the uncertain future of the oceans through the iconic myth of Medusa in an audiovisual show with puppets for adults and children.

The VJ project "**Paintscapes"** and **"Alienscapes"** by Thomas Vallianatos, an installation presented at the magnificent courtyard of Agios Ioannis church, gives an artistic and theoretical perspective on the fractals of Nature, which unfold to the viewer as landscape scenes through 3D animation and visualised soundscapes.

Reclaiming the space of an old windmill, multimedia artist Panagiotis Tomaras and performer Despina Sanida-Krazi join forces and create **Alexithymia,** a light and dance show inspired by the situation of people who experience difficulty understanding and expressing emotions. The performative body remains cut off from external stimuli by making an abstract and repetitive motion while flashes and shifts of light reveal fragments of its movement.



Alexithymia (Light and Dance Performance) by Panagiotis Tomaras

3D Projection Mapping

The landmark house that dominates the settlement square is revived through the universe of 3D Projection Mapping: The project

PIECES of MEMORIES by Eri Harigai recreates the "poetic" wear and tear that time has caused to the ruins of the house through images, colours and organic textures. The scene alternates with Panagioti Tomara's live 3D mapping **Sikinos Castle**, which highlights hidden architectural aspects of the rubble, revealing the contradictory properties between new technology and the ravages of time.

Interactive Installations

The interactive installations forming a peripatetic exhibition interact with the complexity of the Cycladic public space. A hidden gallery, a historic side door, and other locations of the settlement are transformed into open art spaces that the public can visit during the festival.

NOBODY'S TALES by the artistic group Lele Marcojanny presents a hybrid book documentary with texts, sounds and videos that compose a collection of stories about the Mediterranean, approaching the concepts of time and identity in a sea that instead of separating as the dominant narrative suggests, eventually brings people closer.

The **Still, Missing You** installation transforms the "side door", which opens into the square of the "Kastro" settlement, into a place that interacts with human senses. The artist, Layla Klinger, installs an impressive interactive "net" of different light patterns in the silent and dark environment of the shed, which is activated when one approaches or crosses the passage, leading them, through a new way of interacting with space, to the exit.



VR episkopi

Alternative Tours

A digital experience that combines interaction and learning by approaching the past and present of the place, as it guides visitors on unexpected paths. Through these alternative tours, the audience follows a different guided tour, an "unconventional" acquaintance with the nature and culture of Sikinos that offers both entertainment and education.

Episkopi Church in Virtual Reality | Giannis Koumoutzelis, Greece, 2021

Through VR glasses we get to know, interact and explore the history, the architecture, and other hidden aspects of a unique monument of the Cycladic landscape. Our exploratory tour is accompanied by the fictional narrative of Niko, whose unplundered tomb is the most significant archaeological discovery in recent years on Sikinos.

THE LEGACY OF SIKINOS | Ragna Kvernberg / Pål Kvernberg, Greece/Norway, 2021

The Legacy of Sikinos is a research project by land artists Ragna Kvernberg and Pål Kvernberg. A record of the chapels that dominate every path of Sikinos, key elements of its cultural heritage. The artists capture in 360? photos the 61 chapels of Sikinos and place them with **QR codes** on a large map of the island that will be displayed at a central location. You can visit even the most remote chapel with the help of your mobile phone and plan to follow the most interesting route.

See here www.littleislandsfest.com the program of LIF 2021.

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