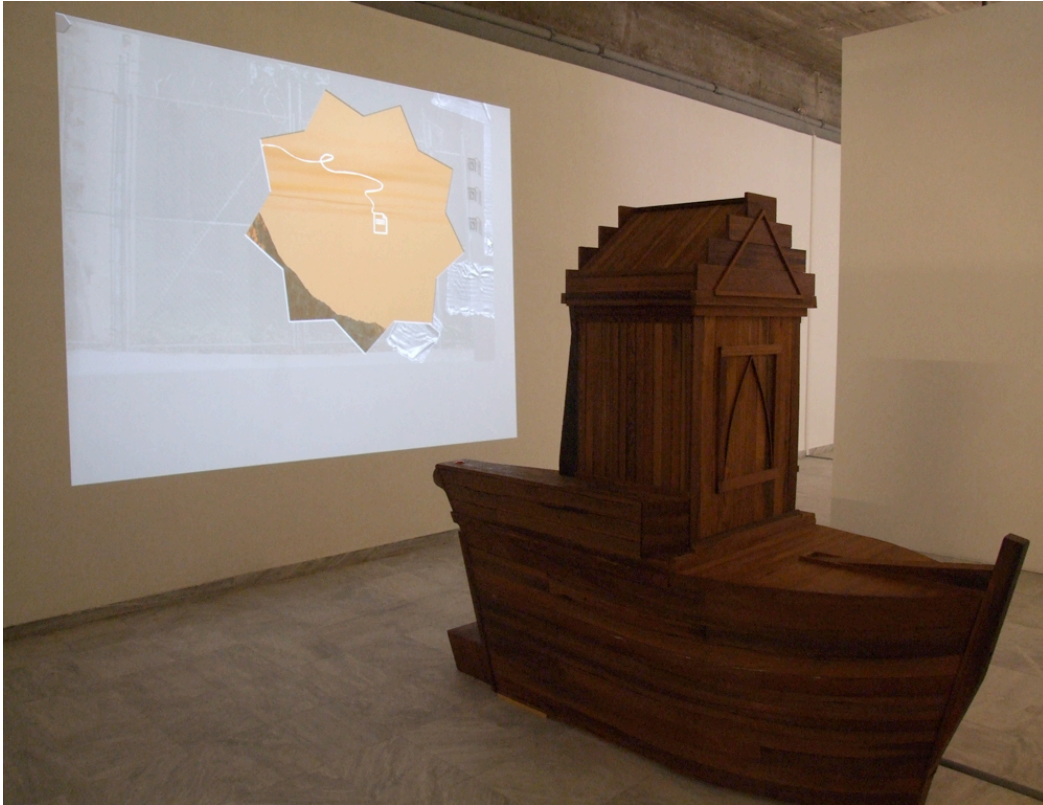


Talk by Yael Kanarek
in the framework of the exhibition *Politics of Art*
Thursday 9 December, at 19.00



In the framework of the meetings with artists that come from metropolitan centers and peripheries, scheduled on the occasion of the *Politics of Art* exhibition, the artist Yael Kanarek will talk about her work on **Thursday, December 9th, at 19.00**. The discussion will be coordinated by Anna Kafetsi, Director of EMST.

The Greek audience will have the opportunity to get to know the work of one of the most important representatives of net art, who participates in EMST's large-scale exhibition with the installation *Object of Desire Control Chair, 2007*

“Yael Kanarek’s interactive installation *Object of Desire Control Chair* (2007) invites us to wander in geographically fluid and ambiguous areas and a multilingual (English, Arabic and Hebrew) cultural environment” as Anna Kafetsi writes in the exhibition catalogue. “Seated in the ark-shaped solitary cedar wood chair, the visitor navigates this metaphorical Noah’s Ark in the website of the *Object of Desire*, the third chapter of the *Traveler’s Journal*, both observing and activating the search for a constantly relocated “lost treasure” in the virtual “sunset/sunrise” of memory, desire and love feeling. By bridging digital technology and craft aesthetics, the virtual and the real, this hybrid work reveals the human dimension, the common anthropological depth of a multicultural heritage as the connecting link against the politics of separation and isolation.”

Synopsis of the talk by the artist

Yael Kanarek looks at how language and numbers operate our collective emotional landscapes by shuffling their physical properties: matter, shape, and sound. Employing modes of authorship (storytelling, computer code, and multiple languages), Kanarek’s works tests the philosophical boundaries of the political and spiritual; artistic and scientific; private and universal; horizontal and vertical. Minimalist and formal abstractions in Kanarek’s work, define the space into which she introduces passion.

Inspired by her own upbringing, Kanarek draws from the multilingual landscape of her childhood in Israel. In that piece of land, narrative (both ancient and modern) plays a dramatic role in defining people's lives. Ambiguous and contradictory narratives spur heat between people and bond them together. Crossing these sensibilities with her observation of the Internet as a network made of language - natural and computer - her most recent projects, the internet art work, Object of Desire, and the series Textwork, engage multiple languages to highlight connection and rejection.

Kanarek will share her sources of inspiration, reading from historical documents and she will demonstrate how to cross from one world to another.

Yael Kanarek was born in 1967 in New York and grew up in Israel. She is the founder of The Upgrade (www.theupgrade.net), an international network of artists and curators involved in art, culture, technology and activism. In 1995 she began *World of Awe* (www.worldofawe.net), a work in progress in the form of a fantastic travel journal, in which she uses photography, net art, sculpture, music, writing, dance etc, to explore the relationship of language, memory, narration and technology. She has been honored with international awards (Rockefeller 2005 New Media Fellowship, 2003 Netizens International Net Art Competition, Rome, 2002 CNRS/UNESCO Lewis Carroll Prix Argos, France, Jerome Foundation Media Arts Grant, New York Foundation for the Arts 2001 Fellowship Award, Alternative Museum Digital Commission 2000). She has exhibited her works in festivals, solo and group exhibitions. She lives and works in the U.S .A. She is represented by bitforms gallery, New York.

www.worldofawe.net, www.theupgrade.net, www.treasurecrumbs.com

A discussion with the audience will follow. The event will last 75'.
The talk will be translated.

Free entrance

Exhibition opening hours

Tuesday - Sunday: 11.00 – 19.00

Thursday: 11.00 – 22.00

Monday: close

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