

# YORGOS PETROU

Graduate of Chelsea College of Art and Design, and Royal College of Art

Lives and works in London, UK

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Yorgos Petrou (b. 1981) has participated in group shows: Planetes, Pafos (2017) curated by Elena Parpa; Electric Blue, Galeria Vermelho, São Paulo (2016) curated by Maria do Carmo M. P. de Pontes; Identalterity, 5th Biennale of Thessaloniki (2015) curated by Dimitris Michalaros, Anthi Argyriou, and Panagis Koutsokostas; Jonny, Insitu Space for Contemporary Art, Berlin (2015) curated by Gilles Neiens, Lauren Reid, Marie Graftieaux, and Nora Mayr; Parlour Symbolique: Freud and Eros, Freud Museum, London (2015); Modern Art Oxford Shorts Program (2011); Bloomberg New Contemporaries (2011) ICA, London. Petrou holds an M.A in Photography, Royal College of Art, (2011) and a B.A Fine Art, Chelsea College of Art and Design, (2008).

Yorgos Petrou's practice seeks to examine and analyze geological strata, political and historical events, and to "excavate" elements that it then manipulates, displaces, photographs, and re-photographs to compose imagery that both contributes and responds to the understanding of the contemporary identity of a place. Landmarks (2016), for example, is a series of works constructed by layering reflective surfaces and manipulating prints, photographed in a studio and on site. The juxtaposition of image and object aims to explore the appropriation of specific places by personal, cultural, and political discourses. It deals with what connects individuals to those places and how they become sites of memory, legend, and trauma.

In this conceptual context, the artist also looks at the human body mythologically, culturally, physically, and emotionally. By displacing and abstracting it, the work investigates how it relates to land, and how it can become a site of individuality, hybridization, sacrifice, heroism, trauma, and dichotomy. Petrou uses photography and sculpture to address aspects of individual and national identity embodied in the landscape, and formed in relation to the geological strata of a place.

Point Home, C-Type Print, Brown tape, 59.5 x 84cm, 2016



Landmark III, digital print on paper, copper plate, concrete (detail), 140x12.5x10cm, 2016

