

Nikos Alexiou

San Marco di Venezia 2010

**Opening Thursday 8 April 2010, 8 pm
Zoumboulakis Galleries, 20 Kolonaki Square**

Nikos Alexiou presents his work "San Marco di Venezia 2010" at Zoumboulakis Galleries, from the 8th of April until the 30th of April 2010.

Alexiou will exhibit an installation consisting of a series of large-scale prints, representing the square and the Basilica of San Marco in Venice.

This work is the continuation of the installation "The End" inspired by the mosaic floor of the Iveron Monastery on Mount Athos, which represented Greece in the 52nd Venice Biennale in 2007.

The artist sees Piazza San Marco as a vessel where "cultural and material goods" and ideas from the world are deposited, seen that way as an "open-air" museum.

This flow of materials, technique and artisans arriving from the East to Venice during the centuries is represented in the floor of the Basilica di San Marco and the surrounding areas. This "marble carpet" operates as a field that bridges and merges different civilizations and eras.

Iveron Monastery and San Marco Basilica can be characterized as landmarks in the artist's journey for the comprehension and interpretation of design units that are involved and constructed into large totalities. Nikos Alexiou has been representing in an elaborate and thorough manner all the paving and mosaic patterns inside and outside the Basilica (square, doge's palazzo, galleries and alleys around the square). Nevertheless, in order to comprehend and attribute the semantic structure of the floor, and furthermore "conquer" the inner logic of the design technique and construction of such a work, the artist was based in former prints, books and photographs, apart from the imprinting and the observation on location. Combining all this knowledge and images, he creates his own ideal landscape that balances in the natural space on one hand and in his imaginary geometry on the other.

By placing the installation on the Gallery's floor, he intends to create the impression of a city beneath the viewers' feet, creating thus a sort of game.

Respondent: Emmanouil Zacharioudakis

Exhibition Duration: 8 - 30 April 2010

Zoumboulakis Galleries, 20 Kolonaki Square

Opening Hours: Tu. - Fri. 11 am - 3 pm and 5-9 pm, Sat. 11 am - 2 pm
Sunday & Monday closed

 Zoumboulakis Galleries

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