

***Irini***

***Bachlitzanaki***



**La Pera  
Projects**

# *Artist's Statement*

*My practice has grown out of the exploration of the different ways in which objects carry and produce meaning and the changes in meaning, status and social significance as they transition from one context to another. Seemingly generic but often highly particular, the objects cast as the protagonists of my recent works draw on a range of different associations. This layering of diverse references and their instability is combined with an overall economy of means and a formal vocabulary concerned with form, mass, space as well as the relationship between materials.*

*Employing materials and techniques often referencing design or drawn from craft and artisanal traditions contributes to the creation of hybrid objects that aim to shift the established, commonplace relationship between form and function as hierarchies between different disciplines become ambiguous.*

*In my recent works three dimensional objects are flattened and recede into the wall, while conversely, images give the impression they are about to break free of their two-dimensional constraints. Blurring the boundaries between two and three-dimensional space these works play with the idea of recognisability and draw on a range of different associations. I think of them as fluctuating between matter-of-fact objects and prototypes in a constant state of becoming; or as theatrical props that exist in an indetermined state between fact and fiction, simultaneously artificial and real. Drawing on the idea of illusion at play and pondering on the artifice of representation, these works oscillate between stillness and movement, between presence and absence and make use of foreshortening and visual trickery to explore not only different ways of looking but also different ways of knowing the world around us.*

*Through interlocking vocabularies that draw from a seemingly disparate array of sources, from the legacies of modernism and languages of production to the allure of the domestic and the handmade, my recent works continue the exploration of the nature and status of the work of art in relation to everyday objects and commodities, opening up questions of value. They bring together issues of authenticity, reproducibility and the copy, and raise questions about the role of skill in art as well as the contemporary place of craft and ornament in relation both to material qualities and the social life of things.*



# CV

## ***Irini Bachlitzanaki***

***(b. 1984, Athens, Greece) lives and works London.***

### Education

2017-2020	Postgraduate programme, Royal Academy Schools, Royal Academy of Arts, London
2006-2010	BA Fine Art, Chelsea College of Arts, London.
2005-2006	Diploma in Foundation Studies in Art & Design, Central Saint Martins, London.
2002-2005	BA History of Art, UCL(University College London), London.

### Selected solo and two-person exhibitions and projects

2020	Piccadilly Lights, London. Curated by CIRCA Art.
2019	Irini Bachlitzanaki & Harminder Judge, Intrinsic Value Investors (IVI), London.
2018	just us on a different day, Elika Gallery, Athens.
2015	Emergent Qualities, Elika Gallery, Athens.

### Selected group exhibitions

2021	Rebetiko, Municipal Gallery of Athens, Athens (forthcoming / Autumn 2021). Au delà de zero-un, Folk Art Museum, Athens (forthcoming / Autumn 2021). Degree Show, Royal Academy Schools, Royal Academy of Art (re-scheduled from June 2020).
2020	Pending. San Mei Gallery, London. Yesterday, Today and Forever, Art Seen Contemporary Art Gallery, Nicosia (Cyprus). Athens Laundry Bougada. Open air exhibition, Athens. New Visionaries, Myo Office Spaces Victoria, London.
2019	Playing Ground, Athens Transmission, Athens. Cream:Whipped!, Coningsby gallery, London. Creekside Open 2019, A.P.T. Gallery, Deptford, London. Premiums: Interim Projects 2019. Royal Academy of Arts, London.



- 2018 Τα Δημώδη / Aggeliki Xatzimichali Museum of Folk Culture and Tradition, Athens.  
Serpent and Shadow, Royal Academy of Arts, London.  
Τα Δημώδη / The Symptom Projects, Panourgias Estate, Amfissa (Greece).  
Unguided Tour: Irini Bachlitzanaki, Vasilis Zografos, Maria Ikonomopoulou. Martinos Art Gallery, Athens.  
Honeymoon, Royal Academy Schools, London.
- 2017 Forthcoming, Space 52, Athens.  
See if you can fit it on the paper, U.F.A.P. Gallery, Athens.  
Bolero Project, Eos Art Gallery, Athens.  
Kids art Lab at Art-Athina 2017, Athens.  
Domestic Matter, 31 Praxitelous street, Athens.  
Sci-Fi Athens, Snehta Residency, Athens.  
Paste in Place, Supersimétrica, Madrid.  
Barter, Eos Gallery, Athens.
- 2016 Tramontane, Ileana Tounta Contemporary Art Centre, Athens.  
Fournos, Githio, Lakonia.  
Back to Athens, Cheapart, Athens.  
Asthenia, Romantzo, Athens.
- 2015 Curious Artefacts, Artwall, Athens.  
Unknown Artist, Stegi Texnon, Molyvos, Lesvos (Greece).  
S.O.M.A (Scattered Open Museum of Athens), Athens.  
European Night of Museums 2015 annual exhibition, The National Bank of Greece Historical Archive, Athens.  
Work, Elika Gallery, Athens.
- 2014 Minimum Structure, Romantzo, Athens.  
Dayz of Glory, Open Show Studio, Athens.  
Desk Issues, curated by 3 137, Dynamo Project Space, Thessaloniki (Greece).  
Boundaries, Snehta and Artscape, Athens.  
Up, Taf, The Art Foundation, Athens.
- 2013 Microgeographies, Chapter III: Toi et tes Épaves, Athens.  
Thrills and Chills, CAN Gallery, Athens.  
Desk Issues, 3 137 project space, Athens.  
Loxodrome, Remap 4, Athens.  
Message in a Bottle, Mithimna Municipal Gallery, Lesvos (Greece).  
Pindaros/Third Floor - a project by Irini Bachlitzanaki & Augustus Veinoglou, back to athens festival 2013, Athens.  
Deja Vecu, Anamesa, Athens.  
Boiling Point, CAMP, Athens.
- 2012 Kodra Fresh: What We Want, Action Field Kodra 2012, Thessaloniki (Greece).  
Cheapart Amsterdam, Amsterdam.  
Boiling Point, Kuenstlerhaus, Vienna.



- 2011 Cheapart 17, Cheapart, Athens.  
Intersection, Freies Museum, Berlin.
- 2010 Degree Show 2010, Chelsea College of Art and Design, London.  
Interim Show, The Triangle Space, Chelsea College of Art & Design, London.
- 2009 London-Tokyo Project, Tokyo Version, Space Annex Gallery, Tokyo.  
London-Tokyo Project, London Version, Etcetera Gallery, London.

#### **Art fairs**

- 2017 Art-Athina / International Art Fair of Athens. Booth of Elika Gallery, Athens.
- 2016 Art-Athina / International Art Fair of Athens. Booth of Elika Gallery, Athens.
- 2013 Sluice Art Fair, London. Desk Issues, curated by 3 137.
- 2013 Art Athina / International Art Fair of Athens. Paradise Lost: Art Athina Contemporaries, Athens.

#### **Scholarships, residencies, awards**

- 2020 Gilbert Bayes Sculpture Grant / Stipend.
- 2017-2020 NEON Scholarship for Postgraduate Studies.
- 2019 The Maccabeans Prize (for work presented at Premiums: Interim Projects 2019 Royal Academy Schools)
- 2012 First place award and stipend, TAF The Art Foundation annual curatorial open call, Athens.
- 2011 Artists Residency, Takt Arts, Berlin.
- 2009 Erasmus Scholarship, Estonian Academy of Fine Arts, Tallinn (Estonia).

#### **Curatorials**

- 2017 Hello, I Love you! Studios 2017, Taf The Art Foundation, Athens. Co-curator.
- 2016 Lost in Translation, Snehta Residency, Athens.
- 2015 Work, Elika Gallery, Athens.
- 2014 Snehta Residency annual group exhibition of resident artists, Art Athina 2014, Athens. Co-curator.
- 2013 Loxodrome, Remap 4, Athens. Co-curator.
- 2013 Floating Walls, Kodra Fresh 2013, Action Field Kodra 2013. Thessaloniki. Assistant Curator.
- 2012 Things, TAF The Art Foundation, Athens. (Curatorial open call winning proposal)
- 2011 Pause/Play, TAF The Art Foundation, Athens. Co-curator.

#### **Publications as Author and selected Writing**

- 2017 Curatorial text: The Sacred Wind of Yiannis Theodoropoulos for the solo exhibition of Yiannis Theodoropoulos Sacred Wind presented at Elika Gallery, Athens (08.02 – 18.03).
- 2016 Curatorial text: Lost in Translation, for the group show Lost in Translation presented at Snehta Residency.



- 2012 Curatorial text: Back Home for the solo exhibition of Vasilis Zografos presented at Batagianni Gallery, Athens (1.11-8.12)  
Curatorial text: A different view on... Things for the group exhibition Things presented at TAF The Art Foundation, Athens (19.3-6.5).
- 2007 Book Review: Yvonne Rainer: The Mind is a Muscle by Catherine Wood, Afterall Books, The MIT Press.

### Print Media

- 2020 Chrystalla Chatzidimitriou, "Galleries Will Not Die", O Fileleftheros Newspaper, November 1st, p.34.  
Editing team, "Athens Laundry: A new project in Athens", Documento, November 1st, pp.8-9.
- 2018 Margarita Pournara, "Kathimerini's old editions become works of art and beauty", Kathimerini, June 14th, p.6.  
Anagnoseis, Avgi, featuring images from the exhibition just us on a different day, no.812, June 3rd, p.29.
- 2015 Krista Konstantinidi, "Re-interpretation of form and image", Estia, October 26th, p.7.  
Anagnoseis, Avgi, featuring images from the exhibition Emergent Qualities, no.677, November 8th, pp.23-24 / 41-42.  
Marilena Astrapellou, "Counterfeiters with a signature", To Vima, August 9th, p. 1 (Culture section).  
Katherine LaGrave, "In Athens, Austerity Makes Contemporary Art Palatable", The New York Times, June 18<sup>th</sup>.  
Krista Konstantinidi, "On Work at Elika Gallery", Estia, February 16th, p.7.  
Anagnoseis, Avgi, featuring images from the exhibition Work, no. 638, February 8th, pp.23-26 / 39-41.  
Marilena Astrapellou, "Giorgio Morandi's readymade", Vimagazino, no.745, January, p.55.  
Ioanna Gomouza, "Skill on the forefront", Athinorama, no. 767, January, p.78.
- 2014 Margarita Pournara, Art Athina: Re-start on a realistic basis, Kathimerini, May 19th, p.21.  
Ioanna Gomouza, "Back to athens: Three dates on Kotzia Sq.", Athinorama, no.675, p.98.
- 2013 Maria Maragkou, "I have seen this before", Eleutherotypia, April 24th, p.21.  
Ioanna Gomouza, "Déjà vu as cause for artistic communication", Athinorama, no.672, March-April, p.91.  
Kika Kiriakakou, "Boiling Point", Metropolis, no.1013, January, p.20.
- 2012 Nikos Hilas, "Greek Boiling Point in Vienna", To Vima, August 12th, p.10-34.  
Giota Mirsioti, "Come dance by the sea", Kathimerini, July 28th, p.5.  
Kika Kiriakakou, "Things", Metropolis, no.980, March, p.21.  
Ioanna Gomouza, "A different Look on Things", Athinorama, no.618, March, p.112.
- 2011 Lee Sanghee (ed.), "In Residence", Nylon Korea, February, p.218.
- 2009 Lucy Birmingham, "London-Tokyo project:Walking Distance 11975 min at Space Annex, Tokyo", Asian Art News, November-December, pp.113-114.

### Online Media

- 2018 Margarita Pournara, "Kathimerini's old editions become works of art and beauty", Kathimerini.gr, June 14th.  
Ioanna Gomouza, Interview "Irina Bachlitzanaki: This is not a hanger", ArtNews.gr, April 20th.  
Elizabeth Louizou, "Time has come for the forthcoming", samizdatonline, May 2nd.



- 2017 A. Karamanolis, "Krisenkunst", fluter.de, April 7th.
- A. Karamanolis, "Griechische Künstler werfen ein kritisches Auge auf ihr Land", srf.ch, March 26th .
- 2016 MI, "Atelier Irini Bachlitzanaki", trendbeheer.com, January 21st.
- 2015 Iliana Fokianaki, "A sculpture show worth seeing at Elika Gallery", protothema.gr, October 5th.
- Maria Xipolopoulou, Interview "Irina Bachlitzanaki: The thin line between art and craft, the handcrafted and the readymade", Art 22, October 31st.
- Athens Voice Team (ed.), "Emergent Qualities at Elika Gallery", Athens Voice, September 29th.
- Vasiliki Tzevelekou, "Unkown art and famous copycats", efsyn.gr, August 9th.
- G. Koul, "Lesvos through the eyes of an unknown artist", naftemporiki.gr, August 18th.
- Athens Voice Team (ed.), "How do you like Lesvos?" Athens Voice, August 18th.
- Marilena Astrapellou, "Counterfeiters with a signature", tovima.gr, August 8th.
- Protothema.gr, "Greece is collapsing and the NY Times are praising the country's buzzing artistic scene", Marianna Marmara, "The New York Times discover the pros of austerity in Athens: "Contemporary Art is in bloom", iefimerida.gr, June 22nd.
- Katherine LaGrave, In Athens, Austerity Makes Contemporary Art Palatable, The New York Times, June 18th.
- Daily Lazy (ed.), "Artists as Curators: Work, Elika Gallery", Daily Lazy (blog), February 19th.
- Stratis Pantazis, "Irina Bachlitzanaki: The multiple meanings of the word work at Elika Gallery", culturenow.gr, January 22nd.
- Iliana Fokianaki, Work under scrutiny by ten artists at Elika Gallery, protothema.gr, January 20th.
- 2012 Marianna Tabaki, Interview, "Irina Bachlitzanaki, Visual Artist", Eterodoxo blogspot (blog), September 16th.

