



PRESS RELEASE

George Gyzis

Clippings: Athens

10 May – 5 July 2025

Ikastikos Kiklos DL in collaboration with **ENIA Gallery** presents on **Saturday 10 May 2025** the solo exhibition "**Clippings: Athens**" of George Gyzis.

The Clippings : Athens series comes as the third cycle of paintings based on clippings from old newspapers. Photographs, drawings and articles on Athens emerge from the archives in the form of artworks to trigger emotions. The works in the exhibition make up a brief look back at the morphology of Athens, from the typical drawings by English travellers in 19th-century Attica and up to the time when modernism reached its peak in the 1950s and '60s.

In the Greek Press, the morphology of the city of Athens was extensively analysed at several times throughout the twentieth century. From the introduction of the concept of horizontal property by the Venizelos government in 1929, which marks the advent of apartment blocks, through the building practice of 'antiparochi' in the post-war years and down to the New Construction Code enacted in the early 21st century, which led to the unregulated erection of tall edifices, the Press of those times voiced their concern about the image of Athens. Especially in areas of high historical and cultural value, multi-story buildings had an impact on distorting visual access as well as the local cultural identity. Newspapers, as the main mass medium in the previous century, were instrumental in the drive to educate citizens on issues around the urban environment. Articles and special features from the past reflect the need for developing a collective respect for our architectural heritage; they were often severely critical of their contemporary political mechanisms and put pressure on them with the unquestionable aim of improving the look of the city.



In the exhibition Clippings : Athens, as in the previous series of clipping-based works, the unseen archive material is enlarged and turned into art. As it is transferred onto the painterly surface, on paper, it retains its age-related elements and is faithfully conveyed. The raster grains or pixel-like dots that make up the photos, the fonts of the lettering and the graphic elements are all studied as part of a painterly process that narrates the wear-and-tear brought about by time. The clippings bring back forgotten urban narratives from the past and comment on topical questions and reflections about an urban environment of which we, too, are a part today.

Exhibition opening: Saturday 10 May 2025 at 12:00 – 17:00

Duration: 10 May – 5 July 2025

Opening hours: Monday closed
Wednesday - Saturday 11:00 - 16:00
Tuesday - Thursday - Friday 11:00 – 14:30 / 17:30 - 20:30

Admission to the exhibition is free.

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