

Gallery Genesis in Athens

Presents

“**SURVIVAL KIT**”

a collection of original artworks

by well established and emerging Greek artists.

Exhibition Curator: Iris Kritikou (Art Historian and Independent exhibition curator)

The vernissage will take place on **Thursday the 3rd of February 2011 at 19.30**

and the show will run until the 5th of March 2011.

Alexandros Maganiotis / Angelos Antonopoulos / Anna Maneta / Apostolos Papageorgiou

Damian Iosifidis / George Tserionis / Georgia Gremouti / Hariton Bekiaris / Irini Gonou

Kostas Pappas / Maria Tsagkari / Marios Voutsinas / Miltos Pantelias / Natassa Rachovitsa

Nikolas Christoforakis / Nikoletta Tzanne / Penny Geka / Pericles Kondylatos

Stefan Petridis / Teo Dascalakis / Vagelis Theodoridis / Vassilis Perros / Yiannis Bekiaris

Survival Kit

DON'T WAIT! GET PREPARED TO SURVIVE TODAY!

www.survivalkitonline.com

Survival kit: a survival kit is a package of basic tools and supplies prepared in advance as an aid to survival in an emergency. Military aircraft, lifeboats, and spacecraft are equipped with survival kits. Survival kits, in a variety of sizes, contain supplies and tools to provide a person with basic shelter against the elements, help them keep warm, meet their health and first aid needs, provide food and water, signal to rescuers, and assist them in finding their way back to help. Supplies in a survival kit normally contain a knife (often a Swiss army knife or a multi-tool), matches, tinder, first aid kit, bandana, fish hooks, sewing kit, and an LED flashlight with batteries.

(From Wikipedia, the free
encyclopedia)

While browsing through the web, one can find an expanded variety of survival kits, enriched with specially considered materials or tools according to the user's specific conditions of living and working circumstances. Disaster supplies are also kept on hand by those who live in areas prone to earthquakes or other natural disasters. In desert or tropical areas, survival kits may have additional items such as shade hats, a compass, medical equipment, matches, and sun glasses or mosquito head netting, additional insect repellent, water purification tablets, a compass, antiseptic creams, anti-malaria tablets, anti-infection tablets, a fishing kit, snare wire, a candle, a signal mirror and a whistle. In arctic or alpine areas, survival kits may have additional cold weather clothing, sleeping bags, chemical "hand warmer" packets, snowshoes, a camp stove, camp stove fuel, a space blanket and a tent designed for arctic use. For personnel who are flying over large bodies of water, a survival kit may have additional items such as flotation vests, fishing equipment, fluorescent sea marking dye, a survival radio, a distress marker light, seawater desalting kit, sunscreen, medical equipment, a whistle, and a sun shade hat. Additionally, "mini survival kits" or "altoids tin" which are designed to fit within a container roughly the size of a mint tin have become extremely popular. These kits often include a small compass, waterproof matches, a fishing hook and fishing line, a large plastic garbage bag, a small candle, a knife blade, and a safety pin as well as instructions in survival techniques, including fire-starting or first aid methods. In addition, parachute cord can be wrapped around the tin.

Survival Kit is an exhibition designed for a time and a city – Athens – in extreme crisis, when each of us is obliged to find rapid-fire procedures with which to deal with the world that surrounds us, both our intimate environment and the outside world, as well as to invent/find/pursue individualized means of salvation, beyond the perishable and supplementary means of first aid described above. The 23 participating artists were chosen for their inventive spirit and humour; for their creativity in handling ideas and materials; and for the personal "survival" proposal they put forward. The proposed *survival kits*, which range from oversized tool sculptures and small-scale introspective mechanisms for self-knowledge, to improvisational illustrated instructions to all comers, and at times poetic memoranda about minimum requirements; from transient relics of a global peregrination and utopian emergency survival tools, to epigrammatic books of knowledge and magic sacks with unknown contents, to hybrid combat-ready figures and memorialized painter's tools: all remind us simply that, beyond all else, art in itself continues to help us survive and, by extension, so does the very process of creating.

Iris Kritikou

January 2011

Text translated by: Susan Apostolakis