



JUNE 1 - JUNE 17
HOTEL Athenaeum INTER-CONTINENTAL

ARGO · ATHENAEUM
DRAKOU ART CENTER
GALLERY 3 · GALLERY F
MEDOUSA
PSYCHICO GALLERY

Art Fair '84, which takes place at Hotel Athenaeum Inter-Continental from June 1-17, aims at presenting to a broad public a cross-section of trends in today's Greek art scene. The seven galleries taking part in this first fair represent the newer presences in the Athenian art world. At the same time they are exhibiting in Art Fair some of the best-known names in contemporary Greek art, alongside several exciting newcomers.

The fair, which grew out of discussions among friends and associates in the art world here, aims at becoming an annual event, with the participation of a wider range of galleries each year as its existence and purpose become known. Given the context of a big-city hotel, the fair has both its aesthetic and its commercial sides. Locating the fair in Athen's largest hotel, which in June is hosting a number of international groups, secures the artists and the galleries a broad international audience. At the same time the fair gives the Athens community as a whole a varied representation of contemporary Greek art, projecting it on a broader stage than most individual galleries can provide, and making this stage accessible to the wider local and international community.

ARGO

Established in Nicosia in 1970 by Costas Serezis, Argo Gallery was transferred to Athens in 1976, where it has remained since under the direction of Francelina C. Serezis. The gallery shows a wide range of artists, both well-known figures as well as newcomers. Included among the established artists it has shown are Petros, Yiorgos Mavroides, and sculptor Yiannis Pappas. The gallery also organizes regularly exhibitions of Greek artists in the owners' home town of Nicosia in Cyprus.

For Art Fair '84 Argo Gallery has selected four artists representing four generations of modern Greek art, beginning with Spiros Vassiliou, one of the first twentieth century Greek artists to attain an international reputation. Vassiliou, born in 1902, has lived most of his life in his beloved Athens, which has provided the theme for many of his often dream-like figurative land-and city-scapes. Constantine Grammatopoulos, born in Athens in 1916, studied at the School of Fine Arts here, later going on to study in Paris. Specializing for years in the technique of engraving, he has illustrated many books, often drawing on themes based on the Aegean and on Greek mythology, and has taught at the School of Fine Arts here.

Sculptor Yiorgos Georgiades, Greece's official entry this year in the Venice Biennale (along with painter Christos Caras), was born in 1934, studied sculpture at the School of Fine Arts, and specialized in metal sculpting techniques in Florence. He has exhibited his work extensively and also teaches sculpture. The gallery selected Stefanos Daskalakis as representative of Greece's younger generation of artists. Born in Piraeus in 1952, Daskalakis studied painting at the School of Fine Arts here, and then went on to study in France before returning to Greece to settle.



Yiorgos Georgiades



Stefanos Daskalakis



Constantine Grammatopoulos

ATHENAEUM

The Athenaeum Art Gallery was created in 1982 by Nora Stamatiadou, an architect by training who, in the course of her architectural and design work, had come in contact with a number of sculptors and painters. In deciding to open a gallery inside the Hotel, the owner aimed at giving an opportunity to contemporary Greek artists — both well-known and newcomers — to display their works not only to the Athenian public but to a wider, foreign audience, the clients of the Hotel. Because of its location in a large, public building, the gallery aims to make art accessible to many people who otherwise do not come in regular contact with the art world. Among the exhibits the gallery has organized, the owner singles out as of particular interest the metal sculpture of D. Konstantinou, the glass sculptures of T. Kyriazopoulos, and the wire constructions of A. Petrides.

For Art Fair '84, the gallery is presenting work by Demetris Alithinos. Born in Athens in 1945, Alithinos, who studied at the School of Fine Arts in Athens and at the Accademia di Belle Arti in Rome, has lived and worked for many years in Italy, where he was deeply involved in the revolutionary movement in Italian art of the 1970's. In his recent work, Alithinos has combined an extraordinary technique of "water painting" — oxidizing shapes onto metal surfaces through the action of water of varying chemical compositions — with extravagant imagery drawn from the classical and the baroque.

The gallery is currently exhibiting the work of Ilias Katzilieris.

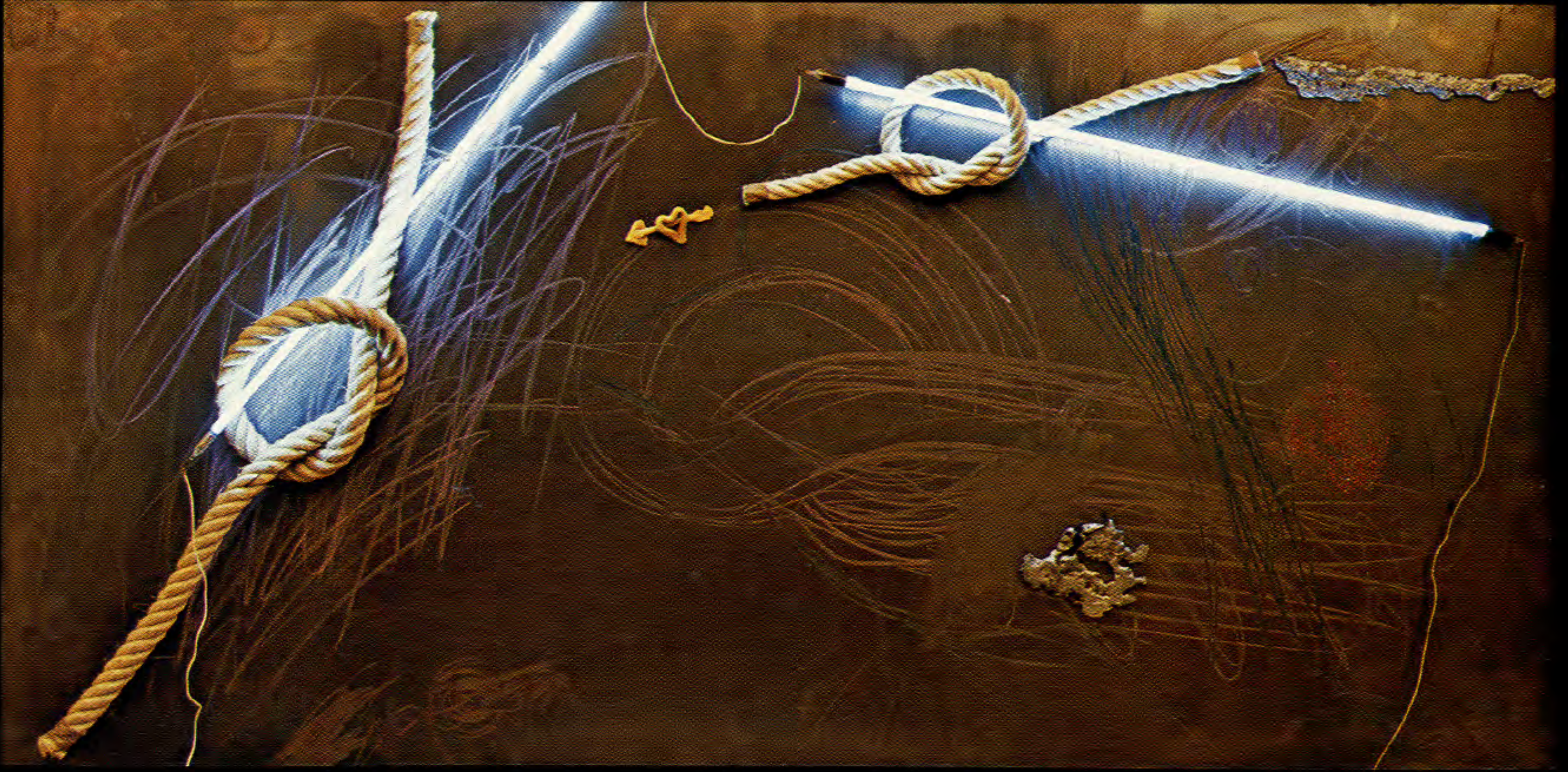


Demetris Alithinos



Pavlos, collage, 1,42 x 1,40 x 4,5

DRAKOU ART CENTER



Yiannis Bouteas

One of the co-founders of Gallery Omega, Vicky Drakou recently separated to form an Art Center, which opens officially in Fall '84, its purpose to establish a gallery of international character, which will actively seek out cooperation and exchange with galleries, museums, and foundations abroad. The building will also include a variety of spaces destined for various forms of expression in contemporary art.

For Art Fair '84, Drakou will be presenting work created especially for the exhibition by Pavlos and by Yiannis Bouteas. Pavlos, who has lived for many years in Paris, and Bouteas, who also moves between the French capital and Athens, are established figures both on the local and the international art scene. Pavlos, who was at the forefront of the neo-realism movement of the 1960's, has developed a unique expression of his environment, substituting for paint and canvas strips of poster paper, which he uses collage-fashion to express the "real" objects he selects from the world around him.

In contrast, Yiannis Bouteas' assemblages of painted panels and neon lights express a different world, more abstract, more cerebral, less tactile, where symbols of technology 'interfere' with the more traditional medium of paint.

GALLERY 3

Gallery 3 was opened in 1980 by Maria Lambaki, Miki Mesolora, and Ileana Tounda, with Youla Gatzetopoulou as artistic advisor. The founders set out to present a wide range of artistic expression, without adhering strictly to a particular line, declaring themselves open to all true artistic expression within the framework of visual art.

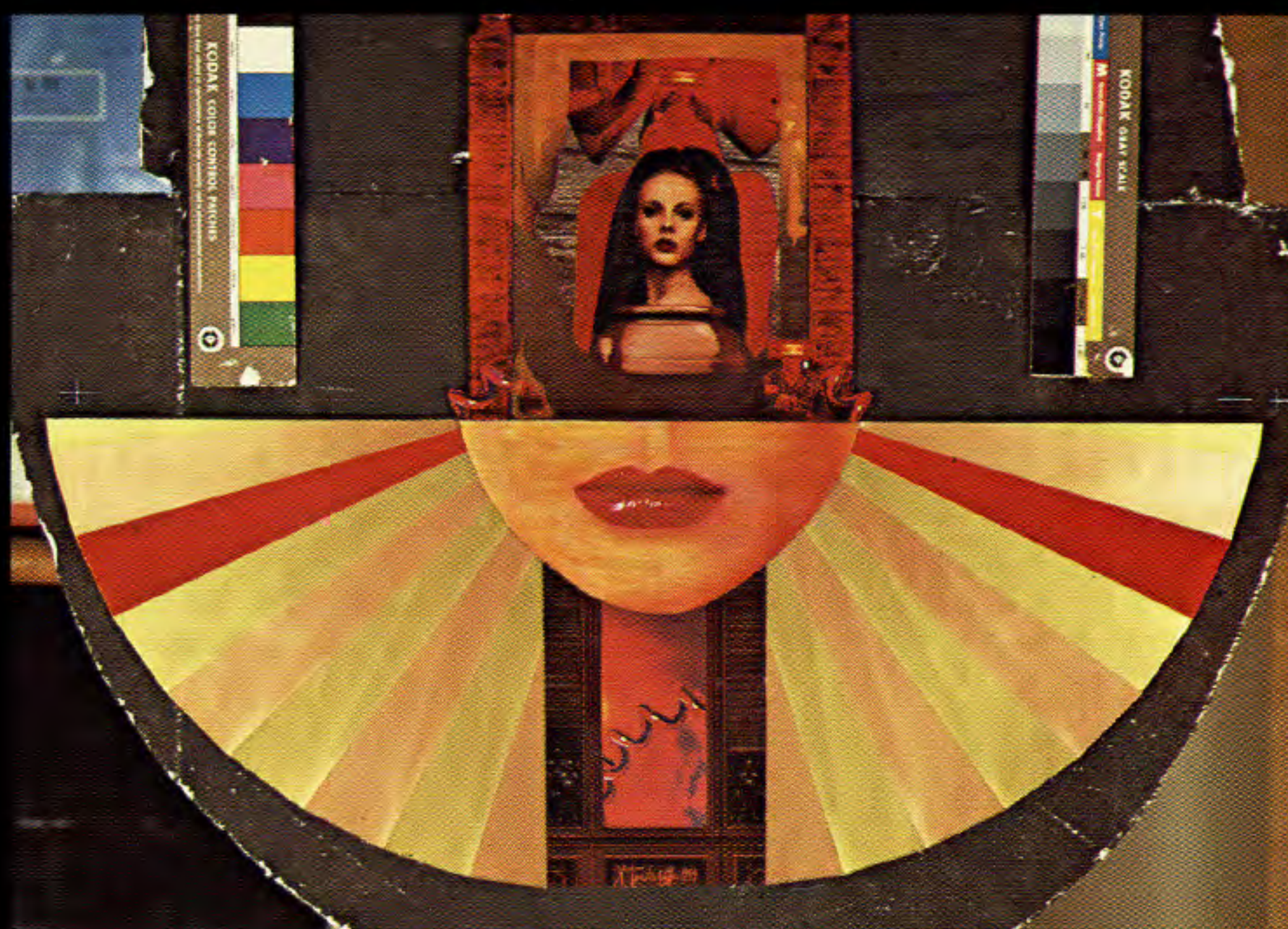
Since it opened, Gallery 3 has adhered to this principle, presenting both individual and group exhibitions of contemporary Greek artists. Among the exhibits they have organized, the owners single out as of particular importance "Optic Poetry", with the participation of 60 Greek and foreign artists; "Environment and Action", with the participation of Leda Papakonstantinou-Hughes, Stathis Chrysikopoulos, and Demetris Alithinos; photographs by Eleni Mylona, Demetris Pantazides, and Claudio Tottoro; and "Dedication to Rimbaud", a multi-media presentation organized by Youla Gatzetopoulou and presented at the French Institute of Athens.

The gallery has also organized a number of exhibitions of the work of "classic" twentieth century Greek artists, including Theophilos, Yiorgos Bouzianis, and Thanos Tsingos, and presented a retrospective of the surrealist painter and poet Nikos Engonopoulos (1937-1981). Recently, in cooperation with the Demetris Pierides Museum of Modern Art, the gallery exhibited a retrospective of the work of Costas Tsoclis.

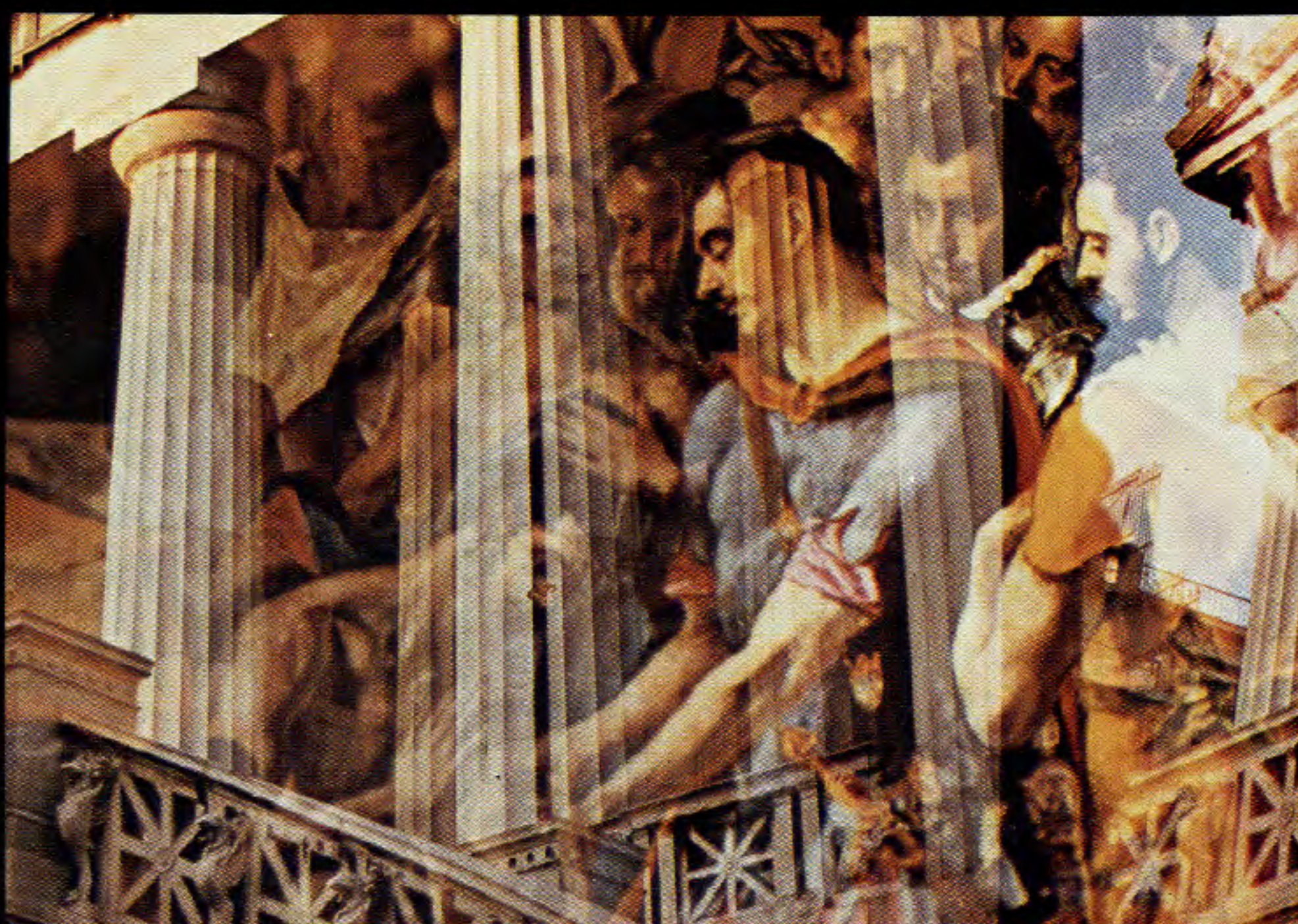
In Art Fair '84, Gallery 3 again presents Tsoclis. Although the artist lives and works in Paris, he retains close ties with Greece. Often exhibiting here, he has contributed significantly to the modern art scene in Greece. As art critic Beatrice Spiliades wrote concerning his work, "(It) is among the most inspired and authentic ever produced here; among the most modern and advanced; among the most poetic and tender".



Costas Tsoclis



Costas Triantafilou



Demetris Talaganis

GALLERY F

Gallery F opened in 1983, under the direction of photographer Demetris Pantazides, with the aim of providing a forum for exhibiting photography and related photo-media of the highest quality. In its first year and a half of operation, the gallery has mounted a number of successful exhibits, including its first, a group show entitled "The Nude", with the participation of 18 photographers. Under the guidance of Pantazides, who also writes for the art magazine Eikastika, the gallery is open to any experimental trend in connection with photo-media.

For Art Fair '84, Gallery F selected the work of seven photographers it considers at the forefront of fine art photography in Greece today, including graphic designer Demetris Arvanitis, born in Halkida in 1948; Spanish diplomat Pablo De Jevenois, born in Madrid in 1945, who is soon to publish a book of his work on the relation between Greek mythology and parapsychology; Alinda Mavrogeni, born in Athens, who has worked as a photographer since 1970 specializing in advertising and fashion; Eleni Mylona, born and raised in Athens, who now lives and works as a photographer in New York; Andreas Smaragdis, born in Crete in 1947, who has worked as a photographer since 1965 and has taught the subject at a number of schools; architect Demetris Talaganis, born in Arcadia, who presented a series of painted photographs in his first one-man photography exhibit at Gallery F this year; and Costas Triantafilou, born in Athens in 1950, who has worked in journalism and publishing as well as photography, creating an exhibit "Media Assemblage" at Gallery F recently.



Demetris Arvanitis



Pablo De Jevenois



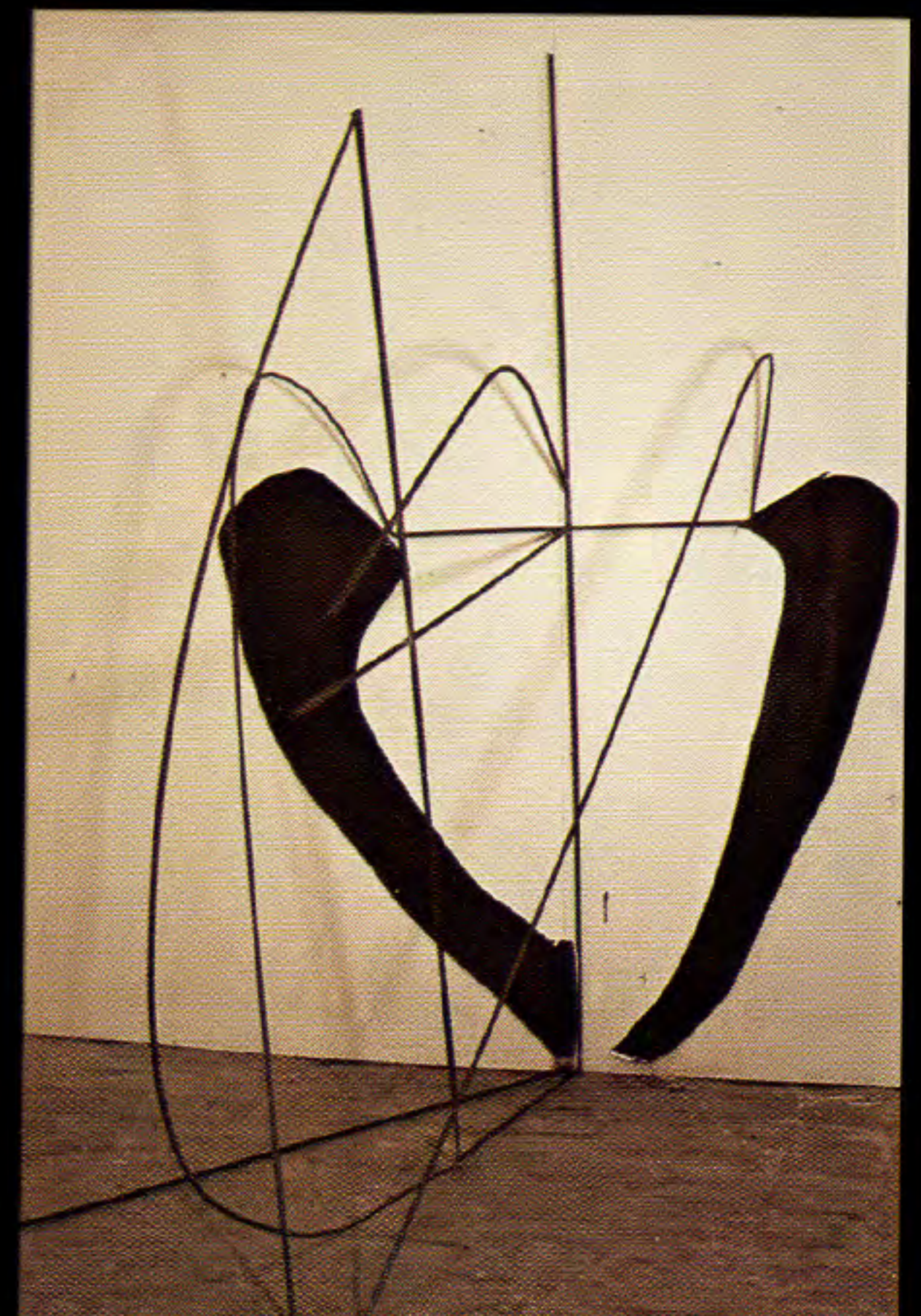
Alinda Mavrogeni



Andreas Smaragdis



Nafsicaa Pastra



Vassiliki Tsekoura

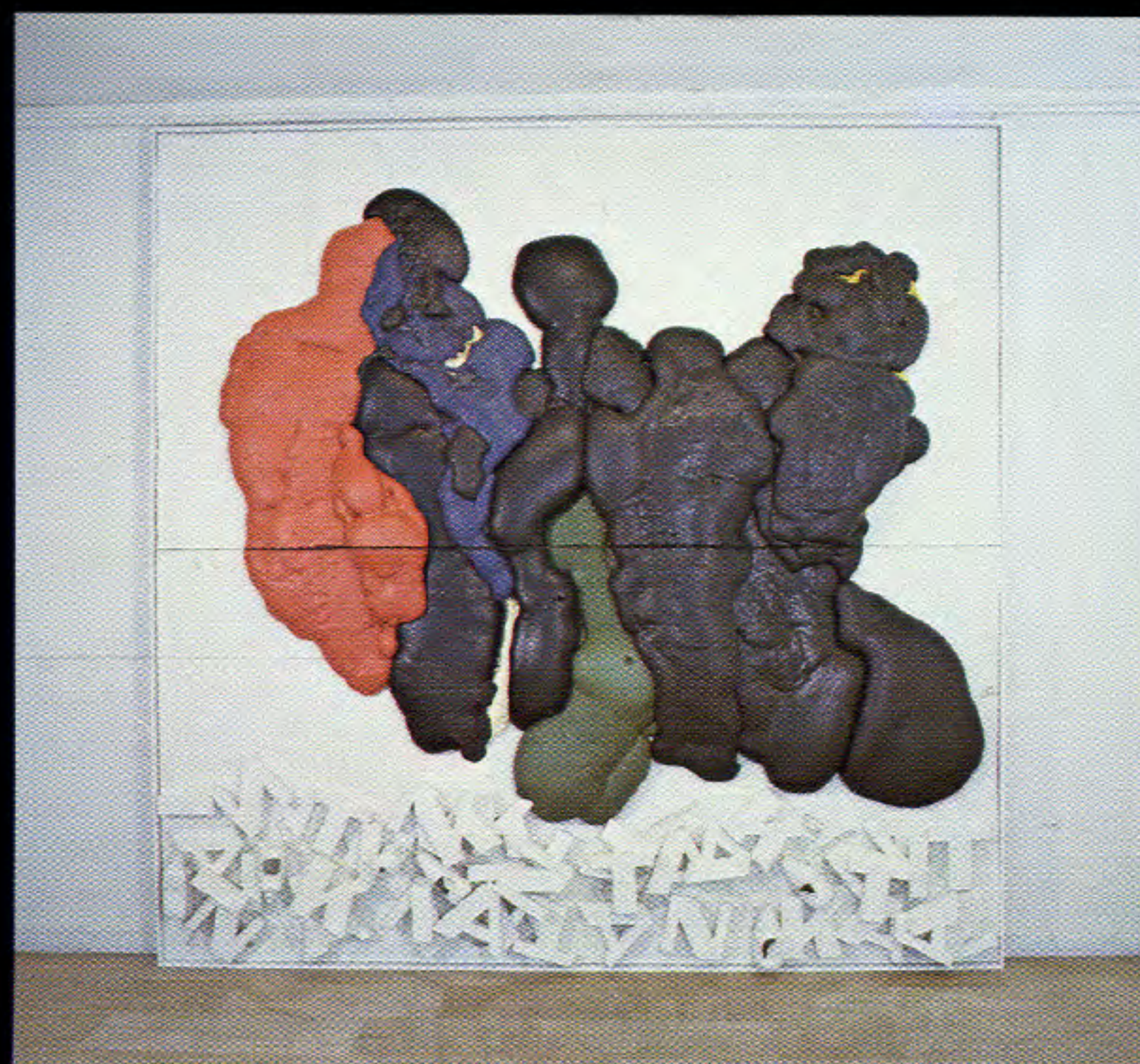
Gallery Medousa was established in 1979 by Maria Dimitriades. Since its inception, the gallery has focussed on modern art as it has developed in the period post-1960. Among the exhibits it has organized, perhaps the most significant were those of Sebastian Matta (organized in conjunction with Alexander Iolas), Alexis Akritakis, Thanassis Exarchopoulos, Makis Theophylacopoulos, and Tonia Nicolaidi. At present the gallery is showing sculpture and collages by Costas Coulentianos.

For Art Fair '84, Medousa Gallery selected six artists its feels express in clear terms several of the important currents in art today. Born in Kalamata, Nafsicaa Pastra studied sculpture at the School of Fine Arts in Vienna. Her abstract, linear constructions, made of wood, express a strong, dynamic intrusion into, and structuring of, space. Nikos Tziotis, born in Athens in 1950, studied at the School of Fine Arts here. In Art Fair, he exhibits one of his richly colored geometric compositions enlivened with plexiglass and neon light, a marriage of painterly design and technology.

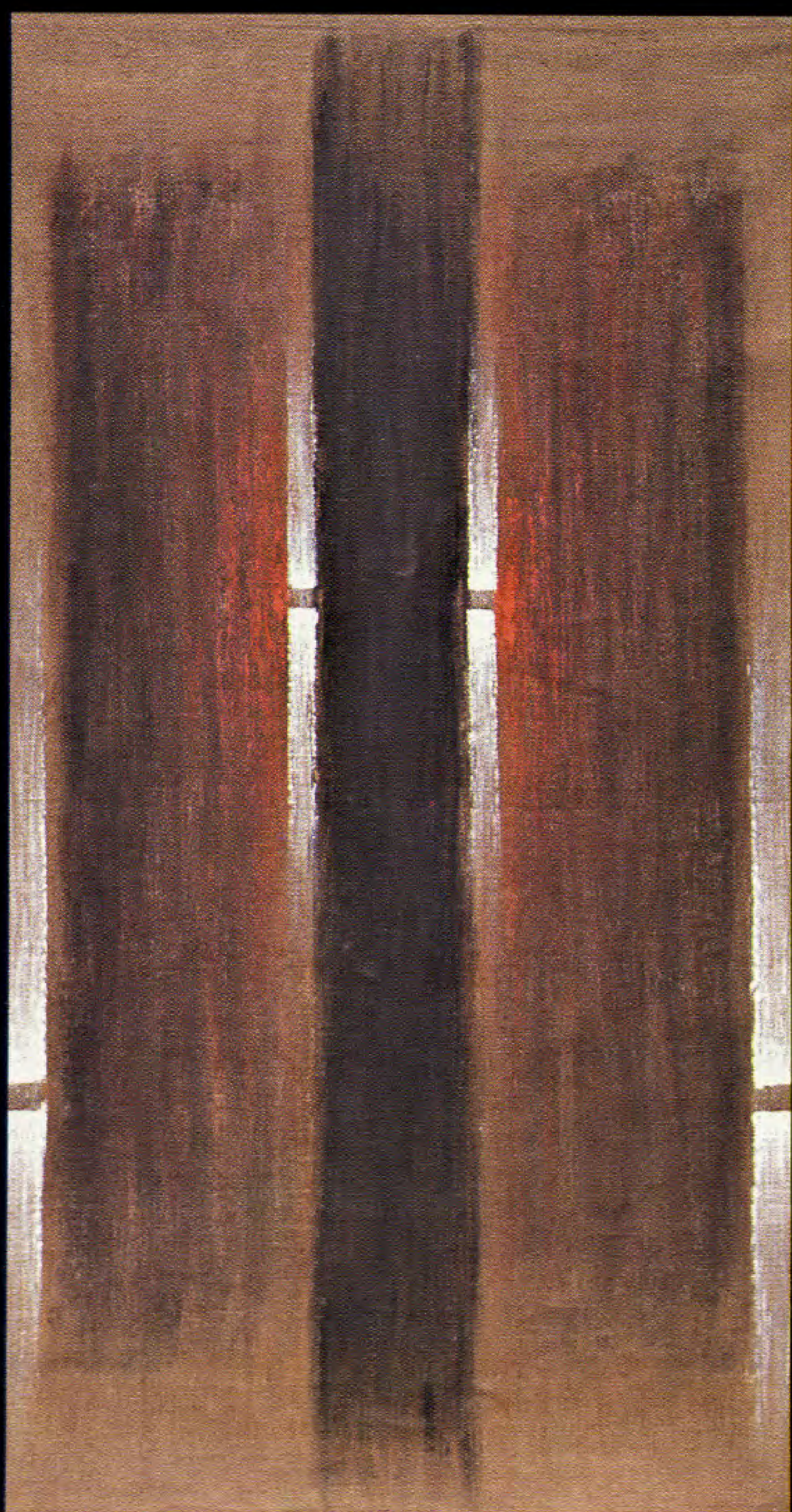
Born in Athens in 1947, Marianna Strapatsaki studied painting and drawing at the School of Fine Arts and at the Ecole du Louvre and the Sorbonne. She has developed stainless steel and pastel compositions which mirror, reflect, and finally interact with their environment and with the viewer. Vassiliki Tsekoura, who was born in Thessaloniki and studied at the School of Fine Arts in Athens, now lives in Paris. In her current work, the artist elaborates her delicate abstract drawings by projecting them, through graceful, metal curves, into the third dimension.

Danil (Danil Panagopoulos) has lived and worked in Paris since 1954, and originally comes from Pyrgos, where he was born in 1924. Best known in the 1960's for his box-interior sculptures and for his mobile signal illuminations, he has since turned more and more to geometrical abstractions in burlap. Leonidas Tsirigoulis, born in Athens in 1937, studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris, and now lives between Athens and Paris. He has moved from his 60's and '70's pop collages of images lifted from our consumer society to his present concern with the materials of industrial civilization — plastic, polyurethane — and with their decomposition.

MEDOUSA



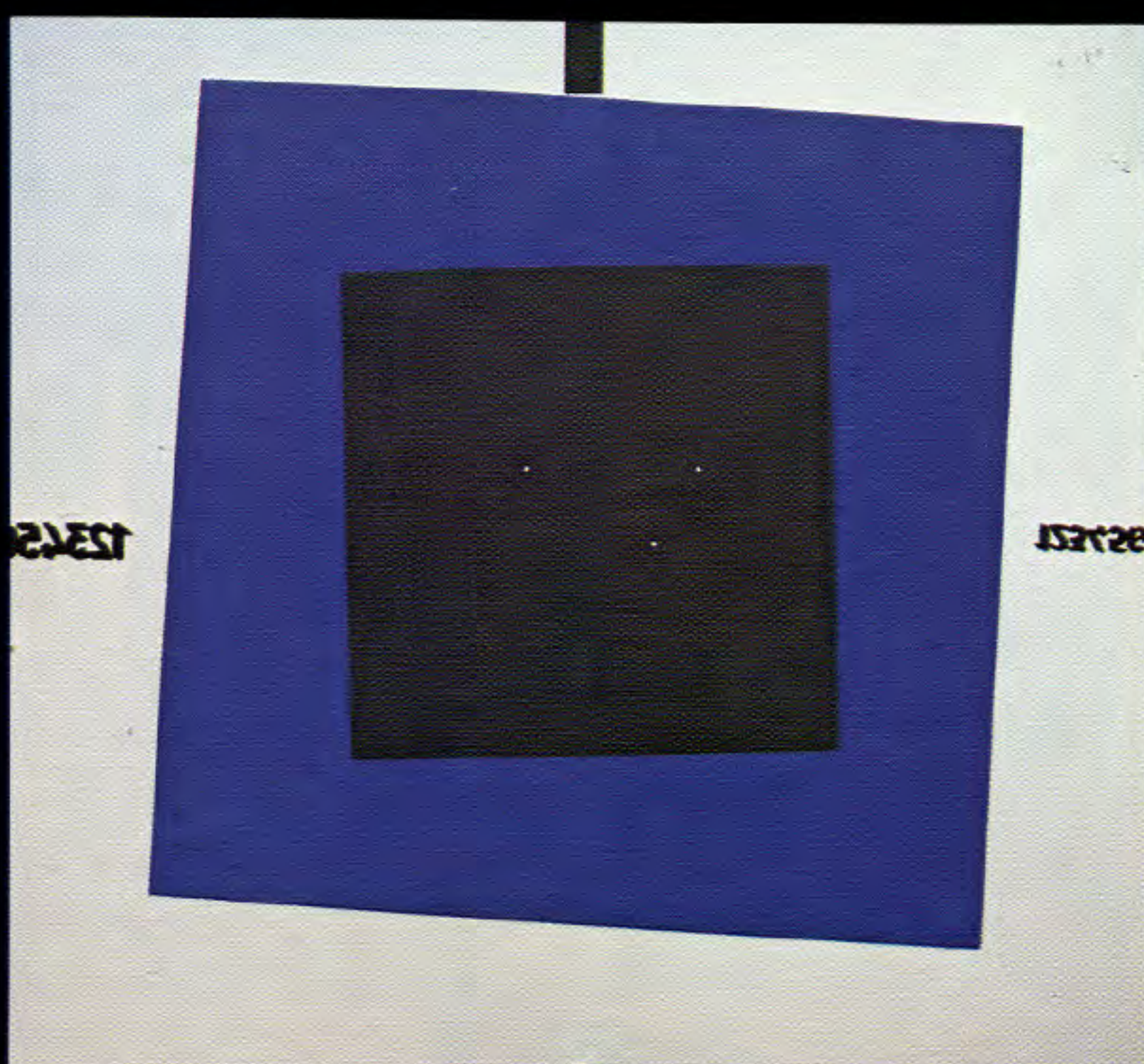
Leonidas Tsirigoulis



Danil



Marianna Strapatsaki



Nikos Tziotis



Yiorgos Papakonstantis



Andreas Vousouras

PSYCHICO GALLERY

The Psychico Gallery, now run by Meta Paniaras, grew out of the Omega Gallery, formerly owned by Paniaras and Vicky Drakou. Founded in 1979, Omega exhibited a number of the best-known figures in contemporary Greek art, among them Nasos Dafnis, Chryssa, Costas Tsoclis, Gaitis, Yiannis Bouteas, and Costas Paniaras.

For Art Fair '84, Mrs. Paniaras has selected works by a newcomer on the Greek contemporary scene, Andreas Vousouras, and placed them alongside those of two established figures, Costas Paniaras and Yiorgos Papakonstantis. Paniaras, born in 1934 in Kiato on the Gulf of Corinth, studied in Athens and in Paris, where he lived almost continuously until 1974, when he returned to Greece. In conjunction with collector Alexander Iolas, the artist is planning a major retrospective of his work opening in the fall at Iolas' new museum of modern art.

Born in Egypt in 1939, Yiorgos Papakonstantis grew up in Alexandria, and then moved to the United States, where he lived and worked for many years. From 1968 to 1970 he taught at the Connecticut Commission on the Arts. After returning to Greece, he lived for five years on Paros, and more recently, he has lived and worked in Athens.

Born in Athens in 1957, Andreas Vousouras studied at the University of Athens before moving to Paris in 1979. Although he was studying sociology at the time, he became deeply involved in the French capital's art world. After returning to Greece in 1983, Vousouras had a first exhibition, an action-environment, in Thessaloniki. Currently, he is presenting his first one man show in Athens at the Psychico Gallery.

Costas Paniaras



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