

Grey Noise, Dubai

Press Release

Nebokeru
Stelios Kallinikou
January 20 – March 6, 2021

Nebokeru is the first solo presentation of Stelios Kallinikou at Grey Noise, Dubai.

Stelios Kallinikou approaches photography as a spatially performative act. An archaeologist by training, he is interested in unearthing narratives of spaces which lie beyond words. He presents us with sequences of imagery, flowing into interlaced dialogues, whilst exploring the nexus between the narrative limitations of photography and consciousness. The photographic effect known as Bokeh has been defined as "the way the lens renders out-of-focus points of light". The term comes from the Japanese word *boke*, which means "blur" or "haze", or *boke-aji*, meaning "blur quality".

The exhibition title is derived from the Japanese verb *Nebokeru* denoting the actions or condition of someone who is half-asleep. Images appear mythological and archeologically proto-human, connecting something primordial to the present by way of narrativising the body's connection with the earth. In an introspective, meditative pace, Kallinikou brings works together constructing a world serving as a speculative scenario, through which he can better envisage his relationship to politics of vision, challenging the ways in which such mechanisms influence our experience.

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About the artist

Stelios Kallinikou

b.1985, Limassol / Lives and works in Nicosia, Cyprus

His work has been presented in solo and group shows at Saigon, Athens, in 2020; Phenomenon artist residency programme /exhibition, Anafi, Greece, in 2019; Nimac (Nicosia Municipal Arts Centre), Nicosia, Cyprus in 2018 and 2019; Foam Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands, in 2018; APHF, Benaki Museum, Athens, Greece, in 2017; Point Centre of Contemporary art in Nicosia, Cyprus in 2017 and 2019; Equilibrists, a show organized by the New Museum, New York and the DESTE Foundation, Athens, Greece, in 2016. Kallinikou was a resident at the Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, Germany in 2018-2019. In 2018 he was selected as a Foam Talent. He is the co-founder of Thkio Ppalies Artist-led Project Space, based in Nicosia, Cyprus.