

# Jannis Psychopedis

## Lemon Grove – Diaries of a Summer

June 8 – July 24, 2019

### Poros

Exploring the theme of “Traces in Time”, CITRONNE Gallery opens its summer season on Poros with two solo exhibitions of Jannis Psychopedis. “Lemon Grove – Diaries of a Summer” is hosted on CITRONNE’s premises, while “The Alphabet – Archaic Palimpsest”, for which the Gallery has collaborated with the Piraeus & Islands Ephorate of Antiquities, is hosted at the Archaeological Museum of Poros.

Jannis Psychopedis describes both exhibitions as visual diaries, alluding to regular entries through which a narrative unfolds that is personal yet with references to collective memory: “The traces in time convey the memory, the empathy, the knowledge and the awareness of a world fragmented in its unity and solid in its dispersion; a world at once affective and reflective.” Traces-imprints in time, fragments of images and a dialogue between past and present make up the mnemonic material behind the series of works in these exhibitions. Indeed, the entire oeuvre of Jannis Psychopedis is characterised by his relation with the past, which defines his artistic identity.

The common thread of the two events is books, as either visible objects or mnemonic allusion. In the Archaeological Museum of Poros, the works of Jannis Psychopedis are 24 books that correspond to the letters of the Greek alphabet and allude also to Homer’s rhapsodies. The 67 works at CITRONNE, arranged in the form of a legible frieze, start from the emblematic novel “The Lemon Grove” by Kosmas Politis.

In both exhibitions the artist attempts a visual staging. The illustrated, open-closed books at the Archaeological Museum

narrate, remind, allude. In the same space, two paintings separate from this series force upon the viewer an almost violent awareness of a painful aspect of contemporary reality: the refugee drama.

In the exhibition space of CITRONNE Gallery, the “still lives” with lemons as the main motif succeed one another to form a potentially unified whole, the Lemon Grove. At the same time, each work retains its own physiognomy as it is linked and surrounded by different elements taken from daily life or History. Here, it is nature that narrates History: the colours, the patterns, the sea, the compositions of life.

This double exhibition attempts to give as comprehensive a picture as possible of the complex personality and the visual quests of this distinguished Greek artist.